JOHN BULL.

"FOR GOD, THE SOVEREIGN, AND THE PEOPLE!"

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, April 2.

THE PAYMENT OF MEMBERS.

It is not altogether a pleasant sign of the times that the House of Commons should have been occupied in discussing a proposal for the payment of its members, or that the motion, though rejected on a division, should have been supported by so considerable a minority as 162. The fact shows how steadily grows the tendency to concentrate political power in the hands of the least fit members of the community. For no surer method could be devised for obtaining the most unfit men to sit in Parliament than by paying its members. The two most desirable qualifications for a member of Parliament are knowledge and honesty, and these are precisely the qualities which the payment of members would least tend to encourage in them. First, as regards knowledge, the reasonable presumption is that a man of leisure is a man of education, and therefore a man of affairs. The sort of individuals who were paid to sit in Parliament would speedily come to consist, for the most part, of adventurers, agitators, demagogues, professional politicians—men devoid of knowledge of public business, but pertinacious hunters after place. And next, as to honesty, these indigent politicians, to whom their Parliamentary position would be bread-and-butter, would find it difficult to resist the temptation of any corrupt influences that might bid for their votes.

Even if this grosser form of dishonesty were absent, their independence as legislators would be gone. They would have to vote, not as they thought right, but as their paymasters should bid them. They would be degraded from the position of intelligent representatives to become mere delegates or mechanical mouthpieces of the electors. Under our existing system of government it is a crying evil that the greatest Empire the world has ever seen is subject to the control of an electorate which, in the aggregate, is and cannot but be profoundly ignorant of the very first conditions of the numerous and complex problems it is called upon to solve. But it is some mitigation of the evil that the ignorant electorate's representatives are, for the most part, men of a certain education and standing, who bring to bear upon the questions before them an independent knowledge of the facts of each case. With payment of members whatever freedom and discretion they have hitherto enjoyed would disappear. And it is not to be expected that a mere hireling delegate should possess such a thing as a political conscience.

As to the plea that the payment of members will confer on the constituencies greater liberty of selection, we do not imagine that the constituencies themselves have found the existing limitations on their choice very galling. Mr. Fenwick, himself a labour member paid by his constituents, says he is "impressed with the "thought that the country is losing much "valuable service" by not paying its legislators. No doubt Mr. Fenwick has been strongly impressed, in the first instance, with the invaluable nature of his own services; and it is but natural that he should grieve over the hardship suffered by constituencies less fortunate than his own. Under the distressing circumstances, however, "the country" has managed to smother its grief with so much success that there exists no discernible popular demand for the privilege of being allowed to remunerate members of Parliament. As Lord Elcho said—in the witty speech in which that ineffably dull person, Sir George Trevelyan could see nothing but the utterance of a mere "humourist," but which was really one of the most forcible arguments ever delivered in Parliament—to represent the constituencies as benefited by the payment of their members is "a pious fiction which reflects "the greatest credit on the ingenuity" of its inventors. As Lord Elcho added, the plan of paying members is only welcomed "either by "constituencies who are tired of paying their "members themselves," or by the individuals who hope to derive personal profit by the arrangement. There is, in point of fact, not the slightest reason to suppose that the electors are anxious to buy an inferior article at a high price when they can get one of much better quality for nothing. What could be more unjust, or more absurdly extravagant, than to compel the vast majority of the constituencies who do not want their members paid, and who can get members to represent them for nothing, to pay men who do not want to be paid, simply to gratify the wishes of one or two constituencies who desire to have their members paid?

The payment of member of Parliament would entail a most serious expenditure on the country. Even if they were to get only £300 a-year apiece, the annual cost would be a quarter-of-a-million. To this must, as Mr. Balfour said, be added the cost of the election, now borne by the candidate himself or his friends. But it is certain that the expense would not stop here. Lord Elcho, remarking that the mover of the resolution had "insinuatingly presented to the "House the thin edge of the wedge," added with delightful cynicism, "It is for us to "hammer it boldly in, and to see that the posi-"tion of a member of Parliament is something "worth having—something worth fighting for." We may be tolerably sure that that is pretty nearly what would happen. Nor is there any reason to suppose that, the principle having been extended so far, its further application would be long delayed. Mr. Balfour is probably right in anticipating that on the shoulders of the community will be thrown in addition all the salaries of County Councillors, members of Municipal Corporations and of Boards of Guardians—in fact, of all elected officials. An enormous mass of work, now done for nothing, would in future have to be paid for. The theory, as Mr. Balfour observed, would henceforth be put into practice, that a man is a fool if he serves his country for nothing.

One of the chief objections which we have consistently urged against democratic institutions is their inevitable corruptness. The cry is, "Down with the Rich and up with the "Poor;" but the persons whom it is intended to benefit are not the poor as a class, but the sordid wirepullers and selfish demagogues, who feather their own nests at other people's expense. These are the men who 'exploit" their fellows for their own enrichment; who want to create as many well-paid posts and places under Government as possible; who seek to make political power "something worth "having"—something that can be expressed in pounds, shillings, and pence. That is what Democracy means all the world over. It is called "Government of the people, by the "people, for the people." In reality it is a system of flattering the people and using the people in the interests of men who live on the people.

ANARCHISTS AND DYNAMITE.

The subject of Anarchists and their pretty ways is once more attracting public attention. Recent events in both France and England go to show that this "advanced" section of the great Radical party has neither abandoned its aims nor changed its methods. In France a series of dynamite explosions have occurred one after the other, and a leading Anarchist, passing under the name of Ravachol, his real name being Königstein, has been arrested on the charge of having caused them. He is said to be the leader of a gang of Anarchist desperadoes, and is also accused of sundry assassinations and other offences. The French Chambers are rapidly passing into law a Bill directed against the dynamiters' conspiracy. Meanwhile, in this country a number of alleged Anarchists, whose headquarters were at Walsall, have this week been tried for offences against the Explosive Substances Act of 1883. A remarkable document found on one of the prisoners—some of whom are Englishmen and others foreigners—is a definite declaration of war on the community at large. The accused persons, or some of them, were connected with a Socialist club and similar organisations, and had taken part in Anarchist and Internationalist demonstrations abroad. The doctrines they are said to espouse, and the methods they are charged with adopting in order to realise their ideas, are identical with those familiarly attributed to Communists, Nihilists, Irish Land Leaguers, Invincibles, Clan-na-Gael men, and similar murderous scoundrels by whatever title known.

We dare say a good many people will experience no small disappointment and some alarm at these signs of vitality in a movement which had seemed of recent years to be diminishing in force. It may perhaps be asked what has been the use of the repressive measures hitherto adopted to crush Anarchism. The solution of that question presents no difficulty, however. It is to be found in the fact that those measures have been half-hearted and insincere. No really earnest endeavour has been made or is likely to be made in any democratic country to suppress Anarchism. And for a very good reason. The principles underlying all forms of Radicalism are identical. The kid-gloved Jacobin and the æsthetic Socialist, the deviser of "remedial "measures" by which Irish landlords are fleeced of their goods to endow the dishonest tenant, the "Progressive" advocate of the wholesale confiscation of property, the Liberationist agitators who demand the Disendowment of the Church, all the politicians—whatever be the designation they prefer to adopt—who want to enrich one class at the expense of another, cannot help feeling that the difference between the Anarchists and themselves is only one of degree. They all alike belong to the great Revolutionary-Radical-Socialist party, and it is unreasonable to expect one section of it to persecute or harass unduly another section. The Anarchists are merely Radicals in a Hurry; surely the Radical of more leisurely temperament may rightly exercise patience and forbearance towards his hasty and indiscreet brethren!

The methods of Anarchism are, from the Radical point of view, not so much wrong as awkward and ill judged. There is nothing in revolutionary violence *per se* that deserves reprobation. In the good old days of Palmerston and Russell, Revolution and Rebellion were openly applauded and encouraged—so long, of course, as they only occurred in other countries. No doubt, the "awkwardness" begins when these blessings are transferred to our own shores. Even our own Anarchists, however, are not to be judged too harshly. With judicious treatment they can be turned into very useful allies. In France many Radical Ministers have found the support of ex-Communists and *dynamitards* a most valuable aid. So in England: it is really difficult to see what Mr. Gladstone and his party would have done without the active co-operation of the members of the old Murder League in Ireland, the friends of Egan and the patrons of "Skin-the-Goat."

Dynamiters know very well that in England, France, and the United States, notwithstanding occasional outbursts of temper against them and their doings, they can count on the sympathies of many leading statesmen, and can often secure for themselves a good deal of deferential consideration, to say nothing of offices of profit. It is not to be anticipated that Anarchism will be seriously discouraged until it is treated on principles that commend themselves to a brutal Toryism. If the men who plan the wholesale and indiscriminate assassination of innocent and

defenceless persons—men, women, and children—were literally to be "hoist with their own petard;" if, since they have declared war on society, society were to accept the challenge and treat them as pirates and *hostes humani generis*; if they were liable to be shot down like the vermin they are, without law and wherever found—then they might be induced to reconsider their attitude towards their fellow-men, and to realise that the game was not worth the candle.

Reviews.

ENGLISH WRITERS.*

Professor Morley has advanced yet one more stage in the course of his laborious Pilgrim's Progress through the broad and far-extending fields of the literature of our country. The new volume of his book on *English Writers*, which is the eighth of the series, covers the ground from Surrey to Spenser, closing with the year 1579, when the latter was a young man of six-and-twenty, in the employment of the Earl of Leicester, busily engaged in the publication of his *Shepherd's Calendar*, which was given to the world in that year. In the two volumes that are to follow next, both of which are announced to appear in the course of the present year, Spenser and his time and Shakespeare and his time are to be dealt with, so that, with the death of the latter, the tenth volume of the Professor's *magnum opus* will be reached, in accordance with the plan which he set before him when first embarking upon it. With the publication of these promised volumes the first half of his laborious task will have been accomplished, and if health and strength are given to him to carry it out to its final completion, ten more volumes will have to follow, which will carry on the description of our literature to the second half of the nineteenth century. This is the plan which the Professor has laid down from the beginning, though in his own words, "subject, of course, here and there to re-"adjustment in the working; subject, also, to "such hap as may befall the best laid schemes of "mice and men."

This programme is unquestionably ambitious, and there is no little pathos in the unintentional parallel which suggests itself between the scheme, which has already been so far carried out, and the task on which Leland embarked, but which was cut short by his failure of mental power at a far earlier age than that to which the Emeritus Professor of English Language and Literature at University College, London, has attained:—

> After the death of Henry VIII., on the twenty-eighth of January, 1547, Leland's health failed, and his income from the Church no longer received additions that enabled him to meet the steadily increasing expenses of his work. The gentle, busy scholar then appealed to Cranmer for assistance. He worked on, but with failing powers, till at last his mind gave way, and on the twenty-first of March, 1550, letters patent from King Edward VI. in Council granted the custody of him, as John Leland, junior, to his brother, John Leland, senior, who was to receive for his better support the profits of the livings of Poppeling and Hasely, and of the prebend of East and West Knowle. Leland's age then was about forty-five. He had not planned for his life's work more than might have been achieved if he had been spared for another five-and-twenty years to labour on until he reached three-score and ten. Men must plan boldly who seek the gathering in this world of the little harvest of their lives. But when God calls them, they lay down their reaping-hooks. Then they pass out unmurmuring to be His labourers beyond the field-marks of the little homestead in which, while the time served, they had sown and planted and dug wells. John Leland remained insane until he died, on the eighteenth of April, 1552, and left "Collections" to take the place of the large works he had designed to build upon them.

In a most interesting passage, which is unfortunately too long to quote, Professor Morley summarises the contents of the seven preceding volumes of his book, in which he has "passed "through the company of English writers, who, "during seven centuries and more, have climbed "towards the light."

We have now, however, to deal with the present contribution to the story of our English Writers, not with a retrospect of the past work achieved, or with the promise of the future dependant on such hap, and we have to congratulate Professor Morley on what he has accomplished in the present volume which, like its predecessor, reflects so great credit on the width of his study, and on the painstaking industry of his research. There may be small slips to be discovered by specialists who confine their attention to the study of the individual authors whom he passes in survey, but his general view of the writers of the period with which he deals is masterly, and he would be a bold critic who would venture to find fault with that general view. For to do so it would be necessary to be as deeply steeped in the knowledge of the literature of the time as the Professor undoubtedly is, and it seems somewhat of a mockery for those who cannot profess to be so steeped to venture to criticise the conclusions at which he arrives. We must content ourselves with the humbler task of giving a general survey of his general survey, and with bearing our testimony to the evidence which his volume affords of a wide range of reading, and of a skilful digestion of what he has read into a consecutive narrative to be easily understanded of the people.

The present volume is not, perhaps, quite so interesting to the general reader as some of its predecessors, and it follows almost of necessity from the great increase of English writers during the period of which it treats — commencing with the incoming of that Italian influence on our literature that, subject to some changes, remained unbroken, till it was suppressed by the influence of France after the Restoration—that in it the author's narrative must be less concentrated and more likely to diverge into bye-channels than it has done in the earlier volumes. But certain writers stand out prominently from among their contemporaries, and a large, though by no means an undue amount of space is given to the Earl of Surrey, who, with Sir Thomas Wyatt, headed "the new company of Courtly Makers," whose acquaintance with "the sweet and "stately measues and style of the Italian Poesie," led to their introducing these measures and that style into English Literature. It was quite in accord with the style of the Italian Poesie that, as Dante had his Beatrice, and Petrarch his Laura, so Surrey had his Geraldine, but in each case there is a considerable difference between the actual career of the heroines and what the reader would have imagined had he no knowledge of their career except what he gathered from the language of the poet. Of Surrey's Geraldine Professor Morley gives the following unromantic account:—

> Now, too, the Earl of Surrey wrote verse for the child, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, upon whom he spent some kindly gallantries by dedicating poems to her as his Geraldine. She was the youngest daughter of Gerald Fitzgerald, ninth Earl of Kildare, by his second wife, who was the Lady Elizabeth Grey, granddaughter of Edward IV.'s queen, Elizabeth Woodville, and first cousin to King Henry VIII. Gerald Fitzgerald died a prisoner in the Tower, in September, 1534, leaving his wife and the little daughter, then about six years old, at Beaumanoir, in Leicestershire, under the of his wife's brother, Lord Leonard Grey, who, in January, 1536, succeeded Skeffington as the Duke of Richmond's deputy in Ireland. When nine or ten years old, the child was attached to the service of the Princess Mary at Hunsdon, where care was taken for her education, and there Surrey first saw her, in the spring of 1537. In the following July she was with the Princess Elizabeth, for a few days, at Hampton Court, where Surrey saw her again. Her father was dead. Most of her kindred were attainted as rebels. There was much pity for the little kinswoman of the king, and Henry VIII. was kind to her. Italian sequences of love sonnets, following old usage of the poets, were addressed in gallantry to ladies whom it was desired to please and honour, and to whom no one could, at the time, suppose that there was the unseemly address of a public personal love suit in poems that were passed from hand to hand. Elizabeth Fitzgerald was a pet child of the Court. Surrey was altogether happy in his marriage, but abstained, as Dante and every other good Italian poet had abstained, from public writing to his wife. he took his part in the new fashionable way of writing love verses, but made his position very clear to those about him by adopting for the lady of his rhymes a hapless little girl of royal blood, to whom it was with many of the courtiers a pleasure to be kind. In 1540, when the Princess Mary's establishment was broken up at Hunsdon, Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald, then only about twelve years old, was transferred to the care of Queen Catherine Howard at Hampton Court. Three years later, at the age of fifteen, she was married to Sir Anthony Browne, whose age was sixty. She outlived two husbands, and herself died in March, 1589. She was followed to the grave by sixty-one old women, numbering the years of her life. Elizabeth Fitzgerald's first husband was living and her own age was but nineteen, when the Earl of Surrey went to the scaffold. He had a wife then to whom he was really attached, and a family of children.

But though Surrey and Wyatt were among the foremost of the Courtly Makers, they were by no means the only representatives in England of the stir of the Italian revival, when the influence of Italy spread over the whole of Western Europe—reaching even to the "penitus toto divisos orbe "Britannos," not always straight from its source by the Tiber or the Arno, but sometimes with modifications due to its passage through Spain and France:—

> Our "courtly makers" were themselves, in some degree, a product of the south of Europe. The main body of our English Literature had been national; even that part of it which was written in Latin dealt chiefly, in all its forms, with the large interests of the country. There was a Court poetry, following forms that Chaucer derived from the Arno and the Loire, and that after-comers imitated from their master, Chaucer. But Chaucer himself was, in his main work, national; and the best of those who came after him, if they were Court poets, wrote, like Dunbar, also for the nation. In Dunbar's time, at the Court of James IV. of Scotland, we have seen that there was a company of courtly makers as numerous as that which made rhyming a fashion at the Court of Henry VIII. In Italy Dante defined the language of the poet, distinguished from the dialects among the people, as *aulico e cortigiano*. The poets were dependent on the princes; and when Lorenzo de' Medici became the founder of a typical Italian Court, as Prince and Poet, it was of the essence of his policy to set his courtiers rhyming and discussing lines of Petrarch, instead of busying themselves about the rights of citizens. Honour came to the courtier who showed skill in the turning of a phrase, and imitated Petrarch in the rhyming of a sonnet or canzone. So there was revival of a fashion that had never died out altogether, and, as in the old days of the troubadours, it was an added grace to a well-born man if he could show skill in writing verse.
>
> But let this kind of skill be valued, and facility in dealing with the mechanism of verse can be acquired by thousands of men who are not poets; as facility in executing pieces on some instrument of music can be now acquired by thousands who are not musicians. Again, if many men of any class, having acquired by practice much facility in the mere art of writing verse, write many pieces, it may happen to any one of them that some day, in some happy hour, a common truth that lies close to the springs of life shall be felt so freshly and expressed so faithfully and simply in the form of verse, that it comes home to us all, and is a poem. Then, if it happen—as it happened to the courtly makers of the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Mary—that somebody with an educated sense of literature makes a collection of what he thinks to be the best of many such pieces—pieces written, very often, without thought of their being read by any but the fellow-courtiers among whom they passed from hand to hand—it may well be that we have, in such a collection, from this or that courtier a single poem which provokes desire in us to see more of his work, when what more he wrote may have been fruitless rhyming. If it be true that every man has in him one poem, diffusion of skill in the mechanism of verse would give some chance of its occasional utterance by one courtly maker or another.

The first collection of these miscellaneous pieces is to be found in *Tottel's Miscellany*, edited, as it would appear, by Nicholas Grimald, of which an interesting sketch is given, illustrated by extracts. Another outlet for the minstrelsy of the time was found in the masques and interludes which, with the miracle plays of an earlier date, must be regarded as the foundation of the English drama, and the first English comedy, *Ralph Reister Doister*, is described at length. This was the production of an Eton headmaster, who thought that his boys, and their fathers and mothers, were likely to be more amused by an English play than by the Latin plays, whether of Plautus and Terence or of their English imitators, which were in vogue at the time, and have in the case of the rival school at Westminster survived to the present day. As bearing on this branch of the subject we may refer to the very interesting chapter which comes later in the volume dealing with chronicles and plays, from which we quote the following passage, descriptive of the plays acted in Elizabeth's time in the inn-yards, which, like the cart of Thespis in Greece, were in England the progenitors of the modern theatre:—

> They were acted on scaffolds in public places, like the interludes, and, like them, with no more stage appointment than the dressing of the actors. Now that the public thronged to be thus entertained, the place of acting commonly chosen was one of the large inn-yards, which have not yet everywhere disappeared. The yard was a great square rudely paved, entered by an archway, and surrounded by the buildings of the inn, which had an outside gallery on the level of the first floor, and a second gallery sometimes surrounding the yard on the floor above The inn-yard having been hired for a performance, saving, of course, the rights of customers whose horses

* *English Writers—Vol. VIII. From Surrey to Spenser.* By Henry Morley.—London: Cassell and Co., 1892.

were stabled round about, a stage was built at one end under the surrounding gallery. It was enclosed by curtains tent-fashion, which hung from above, and included a bit of the inn-gallery for uses of the drama. The platform was strewn with rushes. Musicians were placed in the gallery outside the curtain. One sound of the trumpet called the public in, and they stood on the rough stones in the yard—the original "pit"—unless they engaged rooms that opened upon the surrounding gallery, in which they might enjoy themselves, and from which they could look out on the actors. Those rooms were the first private boxes, and when buildings were erected for the acting of plays, their private boxes were at first called "rooms." The inn-gallery has been developed into the "dress-circle" of modern times. The second flourish of trumpets invited all spectators to settle themselves in their places. After the third sound of the trumpet the curtain was drawn, and the actors began to represent in action the story made for them into a play. There was no scenery. The bit of inn-gallery included between the curtains might be a balcony for a Juliet, a town-wall or a tower to be defended, a palace-roof, or any raised place that was required by the action. The writer and the actors of the play were the whole play. They alone must present everything by their power to the imaginations of those upon whom they exercised their art. Beyond the dressing of the actors, there were only the most indispensable bits of stage appointment; as a seat, if the story required that one should sit, or a table if necessary. But if the poet wanted scene-painting, he must paint his own scene in his verse.

It is evident also from contemporary satires that the actors did not stint sound and fury where the play allowed it. But although the greater part of the audience was uneducated, there were present also the courtiers, scholars, and poets, who were exacting in their notions of wit. The writers were young university men, with credit for wit at stake; and while the plays in the inn-yards could not satisfy the crowd that paid to see them unless they told good stories vigorously and sent their scenes home to the common sympathies of men, the poets who wrote them were compelled to keep in mind the taste of the polite world, by whose judgment socially they must needs stand or fall. Plays written, not for the inn-yards, but for the Court, might appeal only to appetite for wit, and, neglecting the deeper passions of life, play fancifully with a classical fable, or work out ingeniously, through mythological details, some subtle under-thought or delicate piece of compliment to the queen.

Other chapters in the volume deal further with the chronicles which mark the first stage in the growth of history in its modern sense, with the translations from classical literature which resulted from the Renaissance, and with the works of controversial theology which resulted from the Reformation; but on these we have not space to dwell, though the period treated of takes in Holinshed and Stow, Buchanan and Heywood, Coverdale and Campion, Matthew Parker and Knox. We must, however, before parting with a volume which in so many ways commends itself to our approval, and, as a rule, carried out in a spirit of critical fairness and impartiality, express our dissent from the high estimate formed by the author of *Fox's Book of Martyrs*, and our unqualified surprise that Professor Morley should venture to say of it, that "though written in the temper of a partisan, the book has withstood every attack upon its honesty"!!

DEAN BURGON.*

[FIRST NOTICE.]

It was, perhaps, natural to assume that, when the lamented author of that fascinating volume, *The Lives of Twelve Good Men*, was himself to become the subject of a biography, it would appear in a form more or less resembling that which he had adopted for those deeply interesting, thoroughly lifelike, brilliantly-executed character sketches. What we actually get from his biographer is something very different. The life of Burgon is here recorded in two rather solid volumes, in which are included a good many things that we could well have spared, and some that had been far better omitted.

We account ourselves amongst the late Dean of Chichester's warmest admirers, whether he be regarded as a man or as a divine. But not even his most devoted friends can avoid the admission—however reluctant they may be to make it—that there were in him a curious wrong-headedness, a deficiency of judgment, an immense capacity for crotchets, a regrettable impulsiveness, a tendency to extreme eccentricity, the harmfulness of which those knew best who observed his career most closely, and those deplored most who appreciated him most highly. The harmfulness lay in this—that it robbed the man of the influence for good which he was competent to wield and ought to have wielded. We are thinking more particularly of the great position he held as Vicar of St. Mary's from 1863 to 1876. Looking back upon that period now, we seem to see quite clearly that, at a most critical time, Burgon failed to be the power he might and should have been in the University. And the cause, we repeat, was his strange unreasonableness; his odd outbursts of misjudging zeal; his indiscriminate intolerance of everything—great or small—that ran counter to his own individual notions; his not infrequent, though, of course, unintentional, unfairness towards men who were (to say the least) his equals in theological learning, and in loyalty to the Catholic Faith. A reputation for general unwisdom—for eccentricity of thought, and speech, and action, is simply fatal to the chances of one who aspires to lead public opinion in a place like Oxford. The vulgar insolence—so eminently characteristic of Mr. Robert Lowe—that dared to describe Burgon in the House of Commons as "a jocose bigot" perpetrated what was doubtless a monstrous and malignant caricature. But the pity was that any pretext should have been afforded for giving currency to any caricature of that sort.

What we had hoped to get in the present memoir was a lifelike portrait of the real Burgon—the Burgon who underlay, so to speak, that bundle of oddities and cranks and eccentricities—the great Burgon who so valiantly and so triumphantly repulsed the dangerous attempt to impose on the whole English-speaking race a version of the Holy Scriptures based on essentially false principles, and who will be gratefully remembered in time to come as the successful vindicator of the true principles upon which the work should be carried out.

In the pages before us the central figure is encumbered with surroundings that somewhat detract from the effectiveness of the sketch. Perhaps some such portrait as we desiderate may still be forthcoming. Who knows but that in the congenial pages of some future number of the *Quarterly Review* there may yet appear a not unfitting pendant to the *Lives of Twelve Good Men* in the shape of a crisp, concisely-written memoir of their accomplished biographer, which, while relegating to their proper insignificance what were after all mere peculiarities of natural temperament, shall bring into due prominence the sterling qualities of one who was pre-eminently a good man as well as a scholar and divine of unsurpassed—in certain fields of knowledge of unequalled—excellence?

Notwithstanding what we have said about the form of the work before us, we cannot be otherwise than grateful to Dr. Goulburn for the labour he has expended on it, and for the valuable biographical materials he has here collected together. He has certainly succeeded in accurately portraying the exceeding originality of Burgon's character—an originality which he is probably right in attributing largely to Burgon's foreign extraction by his mother's side, and the strong infusion of Smyrniote blood in him. On his father's side Burgon was a thorough Londoner, his family having been long connected with commercial pursuits in the City. The father, Thomas Burgon, was a Turkey merchant, and a member of the Court of Assistants of the Levant Company, which enjoyed a monopoly of trade in the Levant. He was also a distinguished antiquarian. John William Burgon was born at Smyrna in 1813, his mother being a daughter of the Austrian Consul there. When he was a babe of seven months old the great architect, Professor Cockerell, met his friends the Burgons at Athens, and carrying the infant up to the Acropolis in his arms, dedicated him at the Parthenon to Pallas Athene. The boy took early to water-colour drawing. He desired to enter Holy Orders, but, in deference to his father, went straight from school to the counting-house. His tastes were always literary, and he employed all his leisure in literary study, at the age of 23 winning a prize given by the Lord Mayor for an essay on the life of Sir Thomas Gresham. At this time he paid a visit to Oxford to study at the Bodleian, and, on a second visit in 1837, first became acquainted with Newman. In 1841 his father's house of business suspended payment. Burgon was already engaged on his *Harmony of the Gospels*, and he was busy learning Greek; it being arranged that he should go up to Oxford. Brought under the influence of Dodsworth in London, he was already inclined towards the Tractarians. At Oxford he was a disciple of Newman, for whom he conceived a deep reverence that never forsook him. The first person to call on him at Oxford on his arrival was Dr. Pusey, under whose auspices he matriculated as a Commoner of Worcester. Burgon won the Newdigate Prize for a poem on "Petra" in 1845, but was disappointed by missing his First Class. In 1846, however, he was elected to a Fellowship at Oriel, which appears to have been an agreeable surprise. In 1847 Burgon gained the Ellerton Prize for a Theological essay on "The Im-"portance of Translation of the Holy Scrip-"tures." Newman's secession to Rome—which Burgon learnt from Dr. Pusey's lips—was a rude shock, and affected him deeply. He was ordained Deacon at Christmas, 1848, and Priest a twelvemonth later. His first curacy was at West Ilsley, in Berkshire, which he held for more than a year. He next entered on a temporary engagement at Worton, in Oxfordshire. In 1851 he took his third curacy, at Finmere, in the same county. The record of his work there—he used to go over from Oxford every week, rarely to stay for more than a couple of nights—remains as a proof of how entirely he won his villagers' attachment to himself, though his connection with the parish lasted for only eighteen months and his ministrations were so intermittent.

In 1850 Burgon had thrown himself with characteristic vigour into the Gorham controversy. The secession of his old friend Dodsworth followed shortly after. In 1854 Burgon published his *Plain Commentary on the Holy Gospels*. It is the great merit of this work that it travels in the old paths of Scripture interpretation, avoiding modern novelties. Burgon chiefly drew his expositions from the Fathers or from standard Anglican divines; the works of Isaac Williams being a favourite mine from which he loved to quarry.

About this time Burgon expressed himself strongly in a pamphlet on the subject of University Reform. The earnest letter which he wrote to Mr. Gladstone, expressive of the apprehensions with which he and others regarded the probable course of the proposed reforms, is well worth reading. It is interesting to be told that Mr. Gladstone himself, in a letter to Dr. Goulburn, has admitted that he is "in "certain respects concerned, even grieved, at "the turn which Oxford Reform has taken." To a private friend Burgon wrote in 1854:—

> Oxford, I fear, has seen her best days. Her sun has set, and for ever. She never more can be what she has been—the great nursery of the Church. She will become a cage of unclean beasts at last. Of course we shall not live to see it, but our grandchildren will; and the Church (and Oxford itself) will rue the day when its liberties and its birthright were lost by a licentious vote of a no longer Christian House of Commons.

He then goes on to predict a number of changes, all of which were actually brought to pass seventeen years later, when the University Tests Act of 1871 became law; while a still further revolution has occurred more recently still, as a result of the work of the last University Commission.

The saddest event in Burgon's whole life belongs to 1854—the death of his deeply beloved mother. Most touching are his own minute records concerning her end. The body was brought to Oxford and interred in Holywell cemetery. Ever afterwards he was wont to visit the spot daily, standing over it bareheaded. At this time he was completing for the press his celebrated *Ninety Short Sermons*. Four years after his mother's death Burgon lost his father, who was also buried at Holywell, Oxford. Early in 1860 Burgon made a three months' stay in Rome, during which he attended observantly all Roman services and forms of devotion, of which he writes in no unfair spirit:—

> He must have a very cold hard heart who should be able to pass the solemn season of Lent in Rome, untouched by the number and variety of the methods he sees employed for stimulating the piety of the people. . . . I would defy any clergyman, let his views be what they might, to survey, in some out-of-the-way church, the large circle of seated persons, commonly of the humblest class, listening with rapt attention to some very familiar exposition of Christian duty, which was being delivered to them with infinite unction and gesticulation by an impetuous, earnest speaker standing on a *palco* (or little low scaffold) just above their heads, without experimenting the liveliest emotions of pleasure, and (if the truth must be spoken) a secret ejaculation, "I only wish *I* could make people attend half as well to *me!*"

In two of his letters from Rome, afterwards published, Burgon gives a popular account of Codex B, the celebrated Vatican MS. of the New Testament, the antiquity of which he fully admitted, attributing it to the beginning of the fourth century, but the text of which he always, to the end of his life, declared to be "one of the most "vicious extant." He was almost equally severe in his judgment of the Codex Sinaiticus. Dr

*John William Burgon, late Dean of Chichester. A Biography. By E. M. Goulburn, D.D., D.C.L. In Two Vols., with Portraits.—London: John Murray, 1892.

Scrivener thought Burgon's wholesale disparagement of the former "quite unreasonable." At the same time Dr. Scrivener did, only shortly before his death, write of both these MSS., as well as of Codex C, that they were "the production of "an age deeply steeped in Arianism," and quotes their reading of St. John iii. 13 as a corruption due to this fact. The difference between him and Burgon, therefore, seems to have been one of degree only. It would be difficult to say anything worse of the general character of a MS. than that its text has been falsified by heretics. At Rome Burgon was allowed to examine Codex B on several occasions.

In the May of 1860, Burgon was appointed Select Preacher. It was the year in which *Essays and Reviews* appeared, and this volume was shortly followed by the first part of Colenso's assault on the Pentateuch. In the February of 1861, Burgon commenced his seven famous sermons on *Inspiration and Interpretation*, which were published in the following June. In this book Burgon maintains the inspiration of the whole Bible. It has not been the Divine Will that the text of the Holy Scriptures should be kept free from corruption. But, as Dr. Goulburn observes, summarising Burgon's contention:—

> Supposing us to be in undoubted possession of the original autographs of Moses, Isaiah, the Evangelists, St. Peter, St. Paul should we be willing to admit that a single verse or word of the text could be uninspired, and to dispense with it freely, as being immaterial, in our vain conceptions, to the just expression of the Holy Spirit's meaning? . . . Must we not maintain, that as, in the natural body of man, the breath of life is diffused through the whole frame, so there is not a single jot or tittle of inspired Scripture which has not God's breath in it?

In the autumn of 1861, Burgon began his tour in the East, visiting Egypt and Palestine, returning in the summer of 1862. In October, 1863, Burgon succeeded Mr. Chase as Vicar of St. Mary's.

SHORT NOTICES.

Those who are prepared to accept as an article of faith that man "sprang from an ape, the "gorilla, and had his origin in the vast regions "of Africa lying a little to the north of the "immense equatorial forests," may be able to find matter for profitable study in Dr. Mitchell's volume on *The Evolution of Life* (G. P. Putnam's Sons). They will not be surprised to find the learned author evolving from his self-consciousness, and without any other foundation for his theory, an account of the structural changes which gradually transmuted the gorilla on his emergence from his native forests—though why he should have so emerged does not appear—"into a pigmy-like man, or a gorilla man, "and finally to a black man," all such changes resulting, according to Dr. Mitchell, from his northward progress into "the extensive "and agreeable region of tropical Africa lying "north of the Equator," which he confidently pronounces to be "the only place where *man "first appeared upon the earth.*" We may, perhaps be regarded as bigoted and unenlightened, but we must confess that it requires a far more complete surrender of one's reasoning powers to a blind faith if we are to accept Dr. Mitchell's theory than if we are to content ourselves with the Biblical narrative. When, after proving his own theory as to the past to his own satisfaction by a series of bold assumptions, in support of which he produces no evidence, the author proceeds to apply the same method to the future, he indulges in a chapter of "terrestrial and "cosmogenic prognosis," which looks forward, indeed, to a new heaven and a new earth, but of a very different kind from that which is depicted in the Book of Revelations. It is really wonderful to note how much the unbeliever is in these days expected to believe, if only his belief is based on the speculations of a modern agnostic and not on the Bible.

Mr. C. F. Farrar has compiled for Messrs. Nisbet's "Scripture Hand-Books" a volume of notes on *St. Luke* which, after careful examination, we can very cordially recommend. Mr. Farrar has not, we think, omitted to notice any important difficulty, and his explanations are generally clear and satisfactory. We have seen the subject of our Lord's Genealogy more convincingly and luminously dealt with than it is here; but nothing could well be better in its way than the treatment of the vexed question of the date of the Crucifixion. Mr. Farrar follows those who fix it on Nisan 14th. We notice a rather provoking slip, however, on p. 117, line 19. The Thursday evening was the commencement, not (as is here said) of Nisan 13th, but of Nisan 14th. In other words, Nisan 14th began at sunset on Thursday and ended at sunset on Friday. The Last Supper and the Crucifixion both took place on Nisan 14th. Turning to another subject, we have no objection to offer to Dr. Martensen's statement, quoted in the note on St. Luke iv. 2, to the effect that the Devil is not the sole, though he *is* the chief, impersonation of the evil principle. But it was, to say the least, quite gratuitous for Mr. Farrar to observe that "the personality of the Evil One has often been disputed." It has never been doubted either by the Church of God, or by any man who is content to take the Bible as it stands, without twisting its language to suit his own bias.

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C, Conservative; U, Unionist; G, Gladstonite; P, Parnellite; AP, Anti-Parnellite; Lab, Labour; * Sitting Member.

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(MARCH, 1891.)

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(APRIL, 1892.)

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Old fashions yield to modern ways.

1.

For devotion made, for slumber apt.

2.

Nestles upon the Mediterranean shore.

3.

This for defence engineers adapt.

4.

May be learned by a glance at the score.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, April 2.

Lord Elcho has so far achieved the Parliamentary success of the present session. His speech on the proposal for the payment of members was remarkably light and witty. He said:—"I wish to dissociate myself as early as I can from the position taken up by Mr. Fisher. It seems to me that he has dealt with the motion in a most ungracious and ungrateful manner. If I criticise the motion at all, it will not be to object to it, but to regret that it is so limited in its scope and application. Parliaments in this and other countries have passed self-denying ordinances for different reasons, but as far as I know this is the first occasion on which a Parliament has been asked to pass a self-enabling ordinance. Therefore, in my humble opinion, it is wise that we should make the precedent which we are creating as wide and far-reaching as possible. It seems to me that the hon. member unduly limited his motion in many ways. Speaking for myself, and looking back after nine years of totally unremunerated political services, I cannot help expressing my humble regret that he has not seen his way to make it retrospective. Of course, when we come to a period over nine years it would be well to consider whether it would not be advisable to to have some sort of commutation. We must remember, also, that there is a future to consider as well as a past, and we must take care that others do not reap the harvest of which we have sown the seed. We must remember that a political career will have its vicissitudes, that the flowing tide will also ebb, and it may be well to consider it would not be fair and just to make some provision for those who are left stranded at the bottom of the poll by the receding wave of popular favour. We ought also to remember that human life is uncertain, and to consider whether it would not be well to make some provision for the widows and orphans of members who have succumbed during the execution of their Parliamentary duties. I observed in the speech of the hon. member a certain vagueness as regards the method of payment. I was struck the other day with the admirable foresight and prudence of a new member of the House, Mr. T. Healy, who stipulated that his stipend should be paid quarterly in advance. I hope we shall receive the same pleasant and acceptable form of payment. I should also like to ask whether we are to be rewarded independently of the qualities of our services or whether the legislator must prove himself worthy of his hire, and, if so, by what test his merits are to be measured. Is it to be by the number of divisions he has attended? In that case our Parliamentary life will be one slow progress through the division lobby. Or is it to be by the length and number of our speeches? In that case, Sir, your task will be a most invidious one, and we who are desirous of making speeches and earning our salaries shall look upon the mover of the closure in the light of a highway robber who gags us before he robs us of our hard-earned pay. There is another argument in favour of the motion. The First Lord of the Treasury is complaining of the arrears of public business, and I would recommend him to put the vote for the salaries of members as the last vote of Supply. I think it will be found that hon. members will be considerably less anxious to reduce other people's salaries if thereby they are delaying the voting of their own. I cannot help complimenting the hon. member, not only on the way in which he introduced his motion, but also on the ingenuity of his phraseology. To make out that the constituencies are to be beneficiaries under this action seems to me a pious fiction which reflects the greatest credit on his ingenuity. I am rather inclined to doubt whether the constituencies will welcome it. I am inclined to believe that, so far as payment of members has been welcomed in the country, it has been welcomed either by constituencies who were tired of paying their members, or owing to a perfectly natural confusion of terms by gentlemen who confuse payment of members with payment by members.

"Now, Sir, we should not deal with this question in a niggardly and half-hearted spirit. Let us be generous to ourselves as well as just to other people. I have listened with great interest to the list of salaries read out by the hon. member. He read out that one country gave £100 a year; not a cheer answered him. He read out the name of another country which gave £300 a year; hardly a cheer greeted him; but when he said that America gave £1,000, the hon. member for Wick, sitting below him, gave a hearty cheer. If only the hon. member had raised his bid those cheers would not have been confined to the hon. member for Wick. But the hon. member is right. He has insinuatingly presented to us the thin end of the wedge; it is for us to hammer it boldly in and to see that the position of a member of Parliament is something worth having, something worth fighting for. A member who seeks Parliamentary election has to make many sacrifices. He sacrifices his time, his money, and he often sacrifices his health; and perhaps it may be said as being true of some of them, they often sacrifice their dearest principles and most cherished convictions. It seems to me, therefore, that they are justly entitled to some pecuniary compensation for the sacrifices they make—some wholesome antidote for those boluses which they are reluctantly compelled to swallow by their constituents. I sincerely hope that we shall present the demand of the members in a form which will enable those hon. members who have struggled to obtain a seat, who have won the battle and grasped the prize, to look forward in their declining years hopefully for themselves and their families to a future which should be removed from all danger of want or indigence or necessity and to be made comfortably off. The hon. member will acquit me of having met his motion in a grudging or niggardly spirit. I can only express my profound regret that, having spoken as I have done, I am compelled to vote against the proposal of the hon. member. I would state in two sentences why. It is because the eye of the hon. member for South Donegal is upon me. I have carefully examined the precedents; I have carefully studied the past; and I have come to the conclusion that, as the votes of members who were rejected the other day were wrong, I cannot be right in voting for my salary to-night. I can in no way persuade myself that my pecuniary interest in this motion is less direct or less personal than was their interest on that occasion; and, although it may be an excess of humility on my part, I cannot flatter myself that any section of the community will be more benefited by paying me a salary than the same section might have been by the railway for which those hon. members voted. Therefore I shall not only vote against the motion, but I will carefully support the hon. member opposite in taking those steps which honestly, morally, logically, and consistently he is bound to to take to purge and purify the division list to-night of any of those who, with any shadow of pretence, may be said to have a financial interest in the motion."

Mr. Chamberlain has been addressing the Nonconformist Unionists and commenting on the strange indifference of the English Protestant Dissenters to the appeals of the Irish Protestants. He points out that one reason why Mr. Guinness Rogers in company with the majority of Nonconformists support the House is, "Because in these later days he has placed his political conscience, his vote, and his action in the keeping of his leader, and his leader conceals his thoughts and his policy even from his own supporters. Mr. Rogers has so absolute a faith in him, his confidence is so implicit, he is actually willing to give up the right of private judgment, which I thought was the most cherished possession of any Dissenter. Is not this a strange falling off? Is not this a strange position to be assumed by a Nonconformist? When the late Cardinal Newman in his *Apologia* told us he had buried his difficulties and his doubts in the bosom of an infallible Church we accepted his submission as a perfectly natural consequence of his conversion to the Roman Catholic faith. But that one of the sturdiest representatives of Nonconformity should give himself up, bound hand and foot, to a political Pope of his own making, that, I think, passes all understanding. There is a question I want to put to those who agree with my friend Mr. Guinness Rogers. How far are they willing to go? This devotion to a leader has already cost them much. It has carried them further, I am certain, not merely than their original convictions, but further than even now they are altogether pleased to go. How much further will they be ready to go in the same direction? The time is critical; we have arrived at a position when reflection is more than ever desirable. Even Mr. Guinness Rogers seems to think that after all the Irish Protestants may have some cause for alarm, because he says that no reasonable man would think for a moment of destroying the full authority of the British Parliament, and that as long as the supremacy of Parliament is maintained there is nothing to fear. But who has authorised Mr. Guinness Rogers to speak for the Gladstonian party? What private assurance has he got which is withheld from us? What assurance has he got that the supremacy of Parliament will be maintained? Does he read the debates in the House of Commons? Does he know that only a few weeks ago Mr. Redmond, supported by both sections of the Irish Nationalist party, declared that no Home Rule scheme would be accepted by them which did not provide for a Parliament in Dublin absolutely independent and free from all outside control? And then Mr. Redmond challenged Sir W. Harcourt—the leader for the time of the Gladstonian party—and asked him whether, on behalf of that party, he accepted this view; and Sir W. Harcourt, rather than give an answer to this plain question, to which a 'No' or a 'Yes' would have been a most complete and satisfactory reply—rather than give an answer he slunk out of the House of Commons, and from that day to this he has never attempted to return to the question. I do hope that my words may induce Nonconformists who have gone very far on this question, even Mr. Guinness Rogers, to pause and to consider what it is that they are doing. Let them consider the position in which we find ourselves at the present time. If Mr. Gladstone continues to maintain the doctrine of the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament over any Parliament which may hereafter be created in Ireland, in that case it is perfectly certain that he will be at once deserted by all the Irish allies, and if he ever comes into power again he will be defeated and turned out of office almost as soon as he enters it But if, on the other hand—as I shrewdly suspect he will, as I confidently predict he will—if he agrees to pay blackmail to the Irish faction, if he again surrenders to their demands, if he gives up and throws to the wind this doctrine of the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament, then the Irish Protestants will be left entirely at the mercy of a Parliament in Dublin which will be, as far as its majority is concerned, filled with the delegates and creatures of the Irish Roman Catholic priesthood. I do not believe that Irish Protestants will accept this proposal. They will resist it, and we shall be face to face with the possibility of civil war or with the necessity of employing the British forces to put down resistance. Are Mr. Guinness Rogers and his friends prepared to accept the responsibility of putting their Irish brethren into such a position? Would it not be better—is it not his duty—to demand explanations from Mr. Gladstone so that he may know where he is going? Is it not his duty to ask for particulars as to the guarantees that the effective control of the British Parliament over any Irish Legislature will be continuously maintained?"

Mr. Chamberlain goes on to point out that the real reason why the political Dissenters support Home Rule is that they hope the triumph of the Irish cause will pave the way for Disestablishment in England. On this Mr. Chamberlain says:—"I do not think that you will find anywhere a more ardent or more consistent supporter of disestablishment than myself. It is neither defensible from principle nor from policy to put this question forward to the exclusion of every other. It is not right to do evil that good may come. It is not right to purchase the disestablishment of the Church at the price of the disintegration of the Empire. But outside that I tell Mr. Guinness Rogers that his policy is not only in my opinion immoral, but it is childish and foolish. It is foolish because the tardy assent of the Gladstonian party to the principle of disestablishment in Wales—which we have always held, but which they have only recently countenanced, as soon as they thought the Nonconformist vote worth courting, is valueless as long as they put Irish Home Rule in the front of their programme. There

are only two ways in which complete religious equality can be attained in this country. The first is that the friends of the Church, churchmen themselves, should become convinced that the religious usefulness of the Church is weakened by its connection with the State, and themselves make the proposal to free it from State control and abandon privileges which have now become invidious. That may not be a very probable contingency, but at all events it is a possible one; and the other only alternative is that the Liberal party should disentangle itself from this question of Home Rule, should reunite, and should apply its united energy to the solution of this great question. There are two alternatives and no others. Mr. Guinness Rogers is on the wrong tack; he does not attain either one or the other; he does not conciliate Churchmen, and, on the other hand, he is doing his best—I think unintentionally—to prolong division in the Liberal ranks, to retain them in the toils of the Home Rule controversy, and to leave them for I know not how many years powerless to deal with any other item in the Newcastle programme.

"I think I have dealt sufficiently with the political question which chiefly concerns us as Nonconformists in connection with the Home Rule policy. It only remains to say a few words as to the moral considerations which arise out of the same discussion. Now, one thing I imagine is certain. Whether we hold the same opinion or not as to the policy of Home Rule and its practicability, no impartial man can approve of the methods by which it has been sought to bring it about. Mr. Guinness Rogers, in this article, speaks of Home Rule as the cause of righteousness. That is really an abuse of language. No religious cause since the world began was ever served by wholesale lying, by flagrant dishonesty, by murder and outrage. We have heard a good deal in the last twelve months of the Nonconformist conscience, and there is no doubt that the scruples of the English Dissenters were influential enough to change the whole policy of Mr. Gladstone's party, and to force Mr. Gladstone against his will—against his intention, at any rate—to repudiate Mr. Parnell and to secure his deposition from the leadership of the Irish party. Now, I am not going to criticise the action which was taken in the interests of personal morality, but I say that Mr. Parnell's offence, serious as it was, was almost venial beside the long course of cruelty, violence, robbery, and assassination which disgraced the Home Rule agitation. All this has gone on for years, and yet, while the land was filled with deeds of shame—

'Religion, unregardful, kept her cell,
Where were the sacred thunders that should swell
To shame this vile oppression, and proclaim
Eternal justice in the nation's ear?'

I cannot but regret that the Nonconformist conscience, which has proved so powerful in other respects, should have awakened so tardily to the demoralisation which was caused by the preaching and the practice of the National League."

As "an intimate friend of twenty-six years standing," Mr. Wilfred Blunt gives, in the *Nineteenth Century*, some account of the late Lord Lytton. Mr. Blunt says:—"He had an unhappy childhood, a Bohemian home where bitter quarrels were rife, and poverty, or something very like it, stood often at the door. Of his two parents, whom he equally tried to love, the great novelist, his father, with all his brilliancy of wit and literary sensibility, was a mere egotist in domestic life, and, from first to last, fulfilled almost no duty of a parent towards him; while his Irish mother was what the world has seen her, and what she has herself published to the world. Lord Lytton's tenderness towards his father was a touching trait of his affectionate character, and in all his many talks I do not remember to have heard a single word of bitterness escape his lips about him. It is pleasant to think that this filial piety was rewarded late in the unbounded love of his own children, for nothing really is lost to those who give freely, and their bread cast on the waters returns to them always, though it may be after many days. His one absorbing affection, however, in childhood was for his sister, a year older than himself, whom he had the misery of losing when he was still a boy, and under circumstances which made her death most bitter to him. I do not think he ever quite forgot this early grief, and traces of it may be found, if I mistake not, throughout his writings. He was launched early in the world. At 17, his uncle, Sir Henry Bulwer, afterwards Lord Dalling, obtained him his first nomination in diplomacy, and he was sent abroad to shift as he could for himself on a very insufficient allowance, which for a while even ceased entirely. Lord Lytton has told me that at the time he was writing *Lucile* he was without money-resources of any kind, and I know that at another earlier period he was within a little of committing suicide, as an escape from miseries greater than he could bear. What saved him through all was his poetry. His first volume, *Clytemnestra*, published when he was 24 under the name of 'Owen Meredith,' was a very clear success—as much so as Mr. Swinburne's *Atalanta*—and the public praise it won gave him his first feeling of self-confidence, and so the courage needed by his timid and sensitive nature to fight out his life's battle. It was followed closely by *The Wanderer*, written for the greater part at Florence, and under the double influence of a first passionate love and the intellectual companionship of the Brownings, with whom he long enjoyed the most intimate and affectionate relations. *The Wanderer* was at once recognised at its worth, and established his poetical fame above that of any of his young contemporaries, and to the extent that for the first time his father, who had hitherto underrated his son's abilities, became aware of them, and was even, as I have heard, jealously annoyed at his popularity. It was, indeed, a wonderful volume, the most wonderful perhaps in lyric poetry of any published in the present half-century, and I am constantly astonished that it should not be more widely acknowledged as such by the present generation of critics. Its only rivals seem to me to be Swinburne's first volume of *Songs and Ballads*, and Rossetti's volume containing *The House of Life*. *Lucile*, published in 1861, completed 'Owen Meredith's' popularity, and literature opened wide to him her fairest fields for his assured ambition."

Of Lord Lytton's subsequent career Mr. Blunt has much to tell which is interesting, but we must refer the reader to the article itself. With respect to Lord Lytton's own taste in poetry Mr. Blunt remarks:—"I had never read a line of Browning till I knew Lord Lytton, and his interpretation of the subtleties of that master of riddles has remained to me like a flash of lightning seen on a dark night, making the subsequent darkness only the more perplexing. *The Grammarian's Funeral*, *The Morgue*, *Caliban*, and *Paracelsus*, were, I think, the pieces he liked best, and of Victor Hugo, *Le Crapaud* and *La Rose de l'Infante*. His admiration for Browning was at that time almost unbounded, though he considered Victor Hugo, and justly, the greater poet of the two. To Tennyson I do not think he was in those days quite just, for it was the dramatic quality that attracted him most, even in lyric writing, and the monotonous blank verse of the *Idylls of the King* irritated him, and the emasculated paraphrasing of Mallory's grand old prose."

The Countess of Aberdeen gives in the *Nineteenth Century* an account of what she styles a Household Club, that she has got up at her Scotch residence amongst the servants and *employés*. She tells us:—"A paper was circulated describing the objects of the club, and a preliminary meeting was then held, when they were further explained. The establishment of the club was decided on unanimously, a constitution and a few simple rules were adopted, and a committee, secretary, and president elected by ballot. The annual subscription was fixed at one shilling, entitling the member to attend all classes and social meetings and entertainments, and entitling married members also to bring their children, under 17 years of age. It was also decided, with the consent of the heads of the household, that, through the winter, the hour from 6 to 7.15 should be kept as free as possible every evening for the operations of the club. Within a few days forty-three members joined, and within a fortnight of that first meeting there had been started a singing class, composed of twenty members, a wood-carving class of twelve members, a drawing class of thirteen members, a home-reading circle of twenty members, and a sewing class. All these classes were led either by members of the household or by near neighbours. Social evenings, taking place either weekly or fortnightly, were established from the first, and have proved themselves not only popular but helpful in many other ways. The material for these entertainments has been nearly all homegrown and has consisted chiefly of music, singing, readings, recitations, and short lectures. The readiness of the members to take a personal part in the proceedings and to take trouble in preparing for them, has been very marked. A different chairman or 'chairwoman' was chosen for each meeting from amongst members, and all were asked to let the secretary know when they felt able to make any personal contribution to the entertainment of the club. One played a melodeon, another a concertina, another the piano or violin: many could sing or recite; others gave reading or short lectures—on Phrenology, on Venice, &c. It was surprising to find how much latent talent was thus brought out, and the response made to these most creditable efforts was very hearty. Thus all learned to co-operate, to make the best of one another, and there is no doubt that both classes and social gatherings drew all together as a household. Then at times there was a short lecture from an outside friend, such as one on 'The Spectroscope,' by the doctor; another on 'The Wild Flowers of Burns,' by the agent; another on New Zealand by a neighbouring minister. The classes mentioned continued work through winter until June, and were able to give a very good account of themselves. The drawing and carving classes could show most creditable specimens of their session's work, the singing class often gave proof of its vitality at the weekly social meetings, and the members of the home reading circle raised and debated points of difficulty in a manner which indicated hearty participation in the course of study adopted.

"Great as was the success of the first year, it has been entirely eclipsed by the report given in a short time ago at the second annual meeting. This report had to deal with educational classes (comprising composition, arithmetic, book-keeping, and Shakespearean reading), wood-carving, drawing, singing, embroidery, shorthand, and ambulance classes, the operation of an efficient fire brigade, cricket club, football club, lawn-tennis club (composed of girls), the working of garden allotments offered to members of the club, and an account of the various social meetings, picnics, and expeditions. These included some special lectures given kindly by guests staying in the house, such as 'Canada' by Professor Bryce, M.P.; and the 'Pacific Islands and Japan' by Professor Henry Drummond; also the first attempts towards a debating society which may be regarded as most hopeful. Another new and important feature has been the introduction of magic-lantern lectures. Two active members of the club, the butler, and the clerk of works for the estate, have become accomplished lanternists, and many have been the exhibitions, on various subjects, by the lantern this winter. The club also undertook to raise a coal fund for the poor of a neighbouring district by means of supplying lectures on contemporary history illustrated by slides provided by the Magic Lantern Mission. This effort and a concert given by members of the club on behalf of the funds of the Public Library in another district, show that already the desire is growing to extend its own advantages to others, and there are plans being considered for the further development of this side of the club. It should be added that during absence of the family abroad or in London, the affairs of the club are carried on by the outdoor members along with the few indoor servants who are left, and that this plan has been found to answer admirably. During one three months' absence of the family from home, when most of the household was left in Scotland, the club organised a series of Sunday evening services in which they were assisted greatly by the kindness of the neighbouring clergymen of all denominations, who took the service in turns, except on two occasions, when it was conducted by members of the club themselves. Whilst in London, those members of the club who accompany the family find it best to carry out their objects by organising little expeditions to places of interest, to picture-galleries, concerts, &c., and by giving the account of such expeditions afterwards to their fellow-members."

Mr. Theodore Bent, in a lecture delivered before the Anthropological Institute, stated the conclusions which his explorations of the ruins of Zimbabroe in Mashonaland had led him. He holds:—"First, the ruins and the things in them are not in any way connected with any known African race. The objects of art and of special cult are foreign altogether to the country, where the only recognised form of religion is and has been since the days when the early Portuguese explorers penetrated into it, and the Arabian historian El Masudi wrote mainly in the tenth century A.D., that of ancestor worship. From that time to the present day the testimony of this historian proves that little or no alteration has taken place in the nature of the people. The cult, too, is distinctly pertaining to a pre-Mahomedan period, which is, perhaps, the furthest back that we know with any degree of certainty, though the presumptive evidence is to the effect that the ruins date back to a much earlier period. The second point is also obvious—that the ruins formed a garrison for the protection of a gold-producing race in remote antiquity. Forts of a similar structure are found all the way through the gold-producing country, and were erected to protect the mines. The cumulative evidence in favour of the race's being one of the many tribes of Arabia is very strong—the special cult, the monolithic decorations, and the latter evidence of Arabian intercourse with the country, when their power was reduced only to the coast line. Furthermore, we know that the Red Sea was bristling with activity centuries prior to our epoch, that Arab ships brought spices from India, the cassia tree from China; and the wealth of Arabia in those days was proverbial. The Bible is full of allusions to it; the monuments of Egypt bear equal testimony to the wealth of the people of Arabia. Aristeas tells us 'that a large quantity of spices, precious stones, and gold was brought to Rome διὰ τῶν Ἀράβων,' not from Arabia, but by the Arabians. They were, in fact, the couriers of the ancient world. The testimony of most travellers is to the fact that little or no gold came from Arabia. It is, therefore, not to much to suppose that a portion at least of the 'Thesaurus Arabicus' came from this country as well as from India. Mr. Bent had not time to go into the testimony given by the German authorities on this subject. Kremer in his *Studien zur Kulturgeschichte Arabiens*, and Glasen in his *Travels in Arabia*, point in the same direction, and supply much valuable evidence in confirmation of the Arabian theory."

A writer in *Cassell's Saturday Journal* has some amusing gossip on the abuse of free libraries. He says:—"Up to about four years ago the British Museum Reading Room was daily crowded with novel readers and with people who regularly used it for eating and sleeping. Some, indeed, made their toilet every morning in the Student's Paradise, the arrangements of which were then 'more liberal than those of any other first-class library in the world,' as Dr. Garnett once said with justifiable pride. The adoption of new regulations put a stop to these practices—all quite inconsistent, of course, with the objects of the place. But eating and sleeping still go on in provincial libraries. Valuable room, also, is occupied by letter writers—begging and otherwise; envelope and wrapper addressers, in the same place day after day, and always monopolising a directory; schoolboys doing translations by means of a 'crib,' and so cheating their tutors; as well as by that large class who have a 'library dinner'—that is, have none—about four times a week, and who read only to kill time. Then the 'queer' people: what lodestones libraries are to them! A gentleman once prowled about the British Museum for weeks, looking up works on the subject of sorcery, and then went away terribly disappointed because the assistants in the Reading Room could not find him a wise man capable of 'raising the devil.' A great deal of wilful damage is done to property of free libraries. To save themselves the trouble of copying some people are given to tearing leaves from volumes—especially from those containing a particular kind of poem—and to making terrible gaps in files of newspapers. And the worst of it is that the offenders are often persons of education. Not long ago a clergyman was seen cutting a volume in the Reading Room of the British Museum and carefully secreting the cuttings. Challenged by one of the detectives, he denied the charge, but when taken before the authorities he admitted the offence. He escaped with a light punishment: he was ingominiously expelled and his ticket cancelled. More recently, at Sheffield, a political agent was caught in the act of cutting a paragraph from a newspaper volume. In this case the culprit was very properly brought before the magistrate and heavily fined. Books in reference libraries, especially those dealing with local subjects, are defaced by the most absurd notes—in ink. Something after this kind is common: 'I knew him (referring to somebody mentioned in the text) very well. At one time he lived in the same town as my mother's uncle.' But it is the light literature in the lending libraries that suffers most at the hands of the annotating fiend. A more serious abuse of the free library system than any yet mentioned, perhaps, is the dodge by which suburban residents who do not contribute a farthing to the public libraries of their neighbouring towns manage to borrow books. Of course there is a go-between—somebody who is entitled to this particular privilege of corporate government; it may be a non-reader, or a member of a family which has several lending tickets. This person gets books in his name and hands them to the third party. Many librarians are aware that books are thus borrowed by deputy; but for obvious reasons they cannot check the practice. In these ways, then, libraries are abused. One might make out a stronger case still by dwelling on the use which advertisers make of reading-room tables, on the favouritism shown by many librarians, not only in the selection of books, but in lending new books, bought for reference purposes, to gentlemen well able to afford a subscription to a circulating library, and on the enormous number of application tickets used by readers for making notes. Those provided by the State are of good quality and needlessly large, and thus many pounds are wasted annually."

Mr. E. A. Bevers, the well-known orchid grower, gave some interesting information with regard to orchids in a paper recently read before the Oxfordshire Natural History Society. He remarked:—"Orchids, although infinitely more abundant in some regions than in others, are found in almost all parts of the world, except upon the verge of the frozen zone and in climates of excessive dryness. In Europe, Asia, and North America they grow everywhere, in groves, marshes, and meadows; at the Cape of Good Hope they abound in similar situations; but in the hot damp parts of the West and East Indies, in Madagascar, and the neighbouring islands, in the damp and humid forests of Brazil, in the mild warm parts of Central America and Western Mexico, in the damp, tropical parts of India, and in the lower mountains of Nepaul, they flourish in the greatest variety and profusion, not only seeking their nourishment from the soil, but clinging to trunks and limbs of trees, to stones and bare rocks, where they vegetate among ferns and other shade-loving plants in countless thousands. The knowledge of orchidaceæ has grown during the last fifty years at a rate quite out of proportion to that of the rest of the vegetable kingdom. Linnæus only knew about a dozen exotic orchids, and stated his opinion that the world, when fully examined, might probably yield as many as a 100 species. Now at least 2,500 are known to English horticulturists, while the number of species in the order is estimated at 6,000. When orchids were first imported into this country from tropical and subtropical regions, an idea that they all required excessive heat to grow them appears to have been taught and accepted by all agriculturists. To the earlier orchid growers it would appear to have been of but little moment where the plant came from, or under what conditions it grew in its native habitat. The orchids might come from the humid valleys of the Indian Archipelago, the dry regions of South or Western Africa, the mountain chains of Mexico or Peru, or even the snow lines of the Andes, but their treatment was the same, and they were placed in the hottest temperature at command; and even now the highest temperature often means the driest, and this was specially so under the old flue system of heating. Under these adverse conditions we can hardly wonder that many of the newly imported orchids died in a few months after their introduction. Now and then, however, they produced a few flowers, often the last effort of expiring nature, and not properly developed; still the delicate colours and fragrance soon began to be spoken of from time to time as they flowered in the early collections."

He went on to say:—"We are frequently told that orchids require houses to themselves, but really a greater or more absurd fallacy could not be taught; one would almost be led to infer from this that orchids were exclusive and occupied some particular portions of the globe to the utter exclusion of all other vegetation. We can grow palms, begonias, ferns, dipladenias, stephanotis, &c., in an ordinary plant stove, but the orchids which have grown side by side with them in their natural habitats must be placed in a structure called an orchid house. It may be taken as a rule that wherever tropical ferns and fine foliage plants succeed there also orchids, or at least many of them, will luxuriate, often with far greater chances of success than when placed in our so-called orchid houses, which, however desirable, are not absolutely essential to their culture. All those who contemplate commencing orchid growing should begin with the free-growing, profuse-blooming species, and if these succeed and give satisfaction, which they certainly will do if rationally treated, the newer and rarer kinds may be added as opportunities present themselves. The first commencement of nearly every orchid collection is but a series of trials and experiments, and it is always best to experiment with the commoner plants rather than with the rarer and consequently more valuable species. Many people have a fancy for purchasing newly-imported plants, and this can be done most weeks at the auction rooms, Protheroe and Morris, Cheapside, and Stevens, King-street, Covent-garden. It is as well, however, to inform you that you will have to compete with the various nurserymen or their orchid growers, men who have in the majority of cases an extensive knowledge and well matured experience of the plants they wish to buy. There are always many additional attractions about imported and unbloomed plants, and a keen pleasure in watching their buds slowly expand, perhaps for the first time in Europe, added to this there is always a possibility of obtaining some new or rare species or varieties amongst them. But, as I said before, you want to know what you are about, and be able to judge whether there is any vitality about the plants you purchase. For instance, orchids grow from a small eye or bud at the base of the pseudo bulb, and you should be able to tell whether these eyes are alive or rotten and useless, otherwise you would buy a bundle of imported orchids, which, although they would remain green for some time, would never grow."

Mrs. Baxter, who is widely known under her *nom-de-plume*, has contributed to the *Leisure Hour* a most amusing paper on "Rustic Wit and Wisdom," that is brimful of interest. Mrs. Baxter, who is a daughter of the Rev. Williams Barnes, the poet, knows English rural life thoroughly, and has made excellent use of her knowledge. Some of her stories we give:—Farmer R—— was not without a good sense of humour himself. Telling us once of having seen his neighbour's daughters going to their music lesson at milking time, "'Ah,' said I to myself, 'that'll come to summat, that will; a-going to play the pianny at milken time.' An' 'pon my word, zur, it *did* come to summat too, for Farmer B——, he did fail, an' I've a-got two ov his vields!" and Farmer R—— slapped his thigh and laughed. He once exclaimed enthusiastically to the same hearer on the entry of one of the daughters of the house: "There, zur, thic be the vlour o' your vlock!" but then glancing at the other daughters, and being struck with his want of tact, he cleverly turned it off by adding, "But there, they all be vlours, only some vo'k do admire one kind o' blossom, and some another, and she's a rare fine one to please me."

All rustics are not so happy in turning off a thing "one would rather have left unsaid." For instance, the countryman who reminded Mr. Barnes of a good story he had once told him about a donkey, ond said; "There, zur, I can never see a donkey now wi'out thinken o' you." And Sir Walter Scott's servant, Purday, who said, while walking with his master leaning on his arm, "Them are fine novels of yours sir; they're just invallyable to me.

"I am glad to hear it, Tom."

"Yes, sir, for when I have been out hard at work all day and come home verra tired, if I just sit down with a pot o' porter by the fire, and take up one o' your novels, I'm asleep directly."

For pithy aptness of expression the following is not bad. A small farmer, whose cows in a long damp season had with their feet injured more grass than they had eaten, was asked by Mr. A. J. D——, "Well, farmer, how do you get on with your land?"

"Upon my word, sir, I can't help thinking when I look at my pasture that every bullock must have five months."

Next to the oldest shepherd, the village clerk (in days when we had clerks) seems to have been remarkable for sententious humour. There was a quaint old clerk at Whitcombe who gained the sobriquet of "the Archbishop of York," for he prided himself on being "the second man in the church."

Another old Dorset clerk was very much aggrieved once when a young rector begged the congregation to join in the responses, and trained the schoolchildren to do so. "There'll soon be no work left for a church clerk to do if all they women and brats be allowed to take the words out o' a man's mouth," he grumbled. Dire also was the Monkton clerk's displeasure when the "parson" turned out the bass viols and fiddles from the gallery, and "let all they screeching boys and girls sing the psalms to a squealing music-box played by a pert young schoolmistress."

Mr. Barnes once took service for a friend. After service the clerk asked, "Did you hear Squire L. make his responses so loud, sir?"

"Yes; I wish every one would do the same."

"Ah," said he, "I wish he were so good out of church as he is in, he do keep his naughty words for outside."

I fear many humorous rustics do not let their respect for the cloth prevent them from giving an occasional hit at the "parson." The Rev. Croker Egerton tells an amusing tale against himself. "I was once voting for the county," he says, "when the arrangements at Mayfield were very bad. When at last I escaped from the schoolroom in which the votes were taken, it was only to be encountered by a more than half-drunken voter, whose unhappy memory served him to reproduce for me one of Cobbett's irreverent sayings, which he thus holloaed out from the opposite side of the street, "These be my politics: I be for more fat pigs and less fat parsons." The point of the joke is, of course, the rotund figure of Mr. Egerton himself.

There was an old Dorchester woman who in all innocence administered a very good rebuke to her rector, who was fond of Johnsonian periods. This clergyman once, in quoting the beautiful Collect for the fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, paraphrased it into, "by reason of the frailty of our nature we are frequently unable to maintain an upright position." One Sunday the following conversation was heard by the writer in the church porch after service.

Rector: "Well, Mrs. ——, how did you like the sermon?"

Old Woman: "La, sir, it were beautiful wording, that it were, sir."

Rector: "I hope you understood it."

Old Woman: "Bless your heart, sir, I couldn't set myself to understand such beautiful wording as that were."

The sly quaint humour of the English peasant is entirely different from the quick-brained Celtic wit, which is sharp as steel and swift as lightning. When a girl the writer was strolling along a road in Dorset arm in arm with her brother, in rather close conversation, looking perhaps a little like a pair of lovers, when a countryman passed by, glanced at them keenly and shook his head with mock pity, "Ah, poor souls! you be in vor it, you be, poor young souls!" The speech was a whole satire on love and marriage, and the hollowness of human attachments. How different is this from the "Arrah thin, Mike, and bad luck to ye." "Faith then, and indade it's good luck to ye, and—may neither of them iver come to pass," which were the amenities that passed between two Irish labourers who had knocked up against each other, in the presence of a relative of the writer's. As an instance of quick repartee it is inimitable, but a few English examples will show that there is here and there a glimpse of Celtic sparkle mingled with Saxon phlegm. A lady once remarked to Mrs. Legg, a cottager who had asked for boots for one of her nine children, "Why, Mrs. Legg, you are always wanting boots."

"Well, ma'am, you see, lags do genelly want boots, and we be all *lags* here."

Mr. Barnes tells of one of his parishioners who had inherited a watch and some money. The rector shortly after asked the man's wife, "Well, how does the watch go?"

"Very well," said she.

"And how does the money go?"

"Oh, vaster than the watch a good deal."

Mr. Egerton was more speaking to one of his Sussex parishioners who said "that she and her husband had lived twenty-three years in their present cottage, and," she added, "I don't know but what we've been foolish for stopping on in one place as long as we have done. People say we have, anyhow."

He quoted the proverb, "A rolling stone gathers no moss."

"Ah! but," she replied, "a sitting hen gets no feathers."

A young man whom the same rector advised to marry and settle down, delivered his judgment on matrimony thus: "I don't seem to see the good of giving a woman half my victuals to get the other half cooked."

Here is another of Mr. Egerton's good stories.

Some years ago, the tradition says, our village miller was asked by a good solicitor how the saying got about that there never was but one miller who got to heaven.

"Oh, sir," replied Mr. Skinner, the miller, "and shall I tell you how it was he bided there when he was there?"

The lawyer gave it up.

"Because, sir," said the miller, "they couldn't get never a lawyer to eject him."

There is often a good deal of poetry in rustic quaintness of speech. Mr. Egerton speaks of a Sussex woman who once remarked to him: "I have a hard matter to make both ends meet all the week; but on Sunday I never trouble, I leave it all to God," meaning that it was God's day, and she left Him to act in it. A labourer's wife in our own parish, who had a very large family of young children, used to go out to work leaving her three youngest toddles locked up in the house. I once asked: "Are you not afraid of leaving such babies alone?"

"Well, miss, you see, Parson did tell us 'when thy father and mother forsake thee the Lord taketh thee up.'"

"Yes; but don't you think the mother ought not to forsake her children?"

"You see, miss, I look on it like this. If I didn't work, the children would have no food to eat; well, then, if God sends me out to work, I'd allow He'll take care of my children for me while I be a-doing of it."

Another of my recollections was of a humorous old shoemaker at Dorchester who named his four sons Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and was very much aggrieved, when the rector, Mr. Colson, refused to christen the fifth one the "Acts;" for the cobbler said he "wanted to have a family Bible right straight through." A new version of the living word. He was afterwards satisfied with Peter and Paul, which carried him well forward through the epistles.

Another of my girlish memories is of an old woman who was standing beside my sister on the railway bridge, to watch a train which she was seeing for the first time. As it curved round the cutting she said: "Ah, miss, it be all come true what the Scripture tells us, 'the rough places shall be made smooth, and the crooked paths shall be made straight.' I didn't never expect them Bible words to come true in my time."

Miss Collet has an article, in the *Nineteenth Century*, on the prospects of marriage for women, that gives some novel and curious statistics on the subject. She concludes by asking:—"Are girls worth educating? Apparently not, as their parents do not think them worth paying for. The expectation that marriage will in a few years after a girl leaves school solve all difficulties and provide for her is at the root of all the confusion. Fathers who know they can make no provision for their daughters make no attempt to train them for really lucrative employment, because they think the money will be thrown away if their daughters marry; they let them work full time for half or less than half the cost of living, out of a mistaken kindness, of which employers get all the benefit. The girls in many cases accept low salaries under the same impression, in others because they are not strong enough to hold out where so many are willing to undersell them. Those who only take up employment as a stopgap until marriage never become really efficient, and when later on they find that there is no prospect of release, they become positively inefficient. Those who have faced facts from the first can throw their whole heart into their work, but they are heavily handicapped in their efforts towards progress by the bad pay which is the result of the thoughtlessness and folly of those around them. If only the relatives of these girls could realise that at least one-half of them will never be married, and that of the others many will not marry for several years after leaving school, that there is no means of predicting which of them will be married, and that any of them may have to support, not only themselves all their lives, but a nurse as well in old age, the tangle would soon be unravelled. Two things only I would venture to suggest. One, that instead of supplementing salaries and so lowering them, parents should help their daughters to hold out for salaries sufficient to support them, should assist them in making themselves more efficient, and should help them to make provision for themselves in later life, instead of making self-support impossible. The other, that manufacturers and business men should train their daughters as they train their sons. The better organisation of labour should open a wide field for women, if they will only consent to go through the routine drudgery and hardship that men have to undergo. An educated girl who goes from the high school to the technological college will find full scope for any talents she may possess. As designer, chemist, or foreign correspondent in her father's factory she could be more helpful and trustworthy than anyone not so closely interested in his success. As forewoman in any factory, of she understood her work, she would be far superior to the uneducated man or woman, and some of the worst abuses in our factory system would be swept away.

From a recently-issued report it appears that there were, in 1890, 3,715 places in the United States having a population of 1,000 inhabitants or more. Of the total number of those places 39·67 per cent. were in the North Atlantic Division, and the population of these places represent 46·41 per cent. of the total population under consideration. The North Central Division contained 37·01 per cent. of the total number of places and 33·32 per cent. of the total population under consideration, so that these two divisions combined contained over three-fourths of the entire number of places having 1,000 inhabitants or more, and represented nearly four-fifths of the total population of such places. The total population of the 3,715 places of 1,000 inhabitants or more was 26,109,074, or 41·69 per cent. of the total population of the United States. There were, in 1890, 2,193 places having a population of between 1,000 and 2,500, and containing 3,391,609 persons, or 59·03 per cent. of the whole number under consideration, and 12·99 per cent. as regards population. There were 617 places of between 2,500 and 4,000 inhabitants, containing 1,918,169 persons, or 16·61 per cent. as regards number, and 7·35 per cent. as regards population. There were 457 places of between 4,000 and 8,000 inhabitants, containing 2,514,911 persons, or 12·3 per cent. as regards number of places and 9·63 per cent. as regards population. There were 324 places having a population of between 8,000 and 25,000, containing 4,294,817

persons, or 8·72 per cent. of the total number of places and 16·45 per cent. of the total population considered. The places having a population of over 25,000 numbered 124 in 1890, and had a population of 13,989,568. They represented 3·34 per cent. of the total number of places considered, and 53·58 per cent. of the total population included therein. Of these 124 cities, seven had a population of over 400,000, New York heading the list with 1,515,301 inhabitants; 21, a population of over 100,000 and under 400,000; 30, a population of over 50,000 and under 100,000; and 66 a population of over 25,000 and under 50,000. Besides New York, there are two cities having a population of over 1,000,000, namely, Chicago (1,099,850) and Philadelphia (1,046,964). Brooklyn had, at the time the census was taken, 806,343 inhabitants, and was nearly double the size of the next three most populous cities (451,770), Boston (448,477), and Baltimore (434,439). San Francisco had 298,997 inhabitants, and Cincinnati 296,908.

ARTS AND LETTERS.

Lord Tennyson's new play, *The Foresters*, has been published. It will, of course, achieve a *succès d' estime*, but it scarcely calls for detailed criticism. The best things in it are the lyrics. The following is charming:—

To sleep! to sleep! The long bright day is done,
And darkness rises from the fallen sun.
To sleep! to sleep!
Whate'er thy joys, they vanish with the day;
Whate'er thy griefs, in sleep they fade away.
To sleep! to sleep!
Sleep, mournful heart, and let the past be past!
Sleep, happy soul! all life all sleep at last.
To sleep! to sleep!

And this is equally good:—

Love flew in at the window
As Wealth walk'd in at the door.
"You have come for you saw Wealth coming," said I.
But he fluttered his wings with a sweet little cry,
I'll cleave to you, rich or poor.
Wealth dropped out of the window,
Poverty crept thro' the door.
"Well, now you would fain follow Wealth," said I,
But he flutter'd his wings as he gave me the lie,
I cling to you all the more.

Leo. XIII. has given a sum of 10,000 francs towards the cost of erecting a mausoleum to Danté, which is to be adorned with an elaborate portrait of the poet in mosaic.

Dr. Waldstein, the head of the Archæological school in Athens, who is superintending the excavations recently commenced at Sparta, telegraphs that the work already carried out has resulted in the discovery of the circular building referred to by Pausanias as being mentioned by Epimenides, who lived in the sixth century before Christ.

Mdme. Patti, after her return to Europe, proposes to give in her private theatre at Craig-y-Nos Castle some dramatic performances, with the assistance of Salvini's son, who has achieved great success on the stage in the United States. One piece in which the great *prima donna* is likely to appear is a dramatic version of the story of *Cavalleria Rusticana*, she herself playing the *rôle* of the unhappy heroine Santuzza.

Pietro Mascagni is busily engaged upon the score of his new opera, *I Rantzau*, the subject of which is again drawn from one of Erckmann-Chatrian's stories. According to some Italian papers, the opera is to be first brought out at the Imperial Opera, of Vienna, during next autumn, while others name the Teatro Pagliano, of Florence, as being the lyrical stage selected for the *première*, and even give the names of the artists cast for the principal parts.

The contributions that will be made by the chief English artists to the forthcoming exhibitions at the Royal Academy and the New Gallery are now practically settled. The President, Sir Frederic Leighton, will exhibit five pictures with the following titles: first, "And the Sea gave up the Dead which were in it;" second, "The Garden of the Hesperides;" third, "A Bacchante;" fourth, "At the Fountain;" fifth, "Clytie." Sir John Millais will send to the Academy a magnificent landscape entitled, "Blow, blow, thou winter wind." On a snow-covered Highland moor, beneath a tall pine tossed in the gale, a beautiful woman hugs her child to her bosom, while a man, presumably the cause of all her woe, disappears in the distance. The rendering of the wind action on the trees is wonderfully effective. A lovely portrait of the artist's grandchild, entitled "Little Speedwell," may also go to the Academy, as probably will a landscape that fitly might be termed "Nature's Mirror," depicting, as it does, glancing water and an entrancing glade. Mr. Alma Tadema has ready a lovely group of girls and other figures, entitled "The Kiss," which will probably go to the Academy, while to the New Gallery may be sent a classical picture of a young Roman lover paying his afternoon call and finding his lady love enjoying a siesta. Mr. Orchardson has a single picture for the Academy, the one that will probably vie with Sir John Millais's landscape in making the hit of the season. It is entitled "Napoleon Dictating the History of His Campaigns." It is the year after Waterloo; the scene is St. Helena. The great Napoleon, fallen, is striding over a litter of military maps upon the floor, while he dictates the passage of the Alps to his secretary, Las Casas. The sword with which he had carved Europe serves to weight a diagram, while his foot is imperiously pressed upon a battle-field. Mr. H. S. Marks sends to the Royal Academy "The Great Auk's Egg—The Collector's Treasure." In a cheerful, white-panelled room sit two old bald-headed gentlemen, one of whom has become the happy possessor of an auk's egg, which he regards with pride as he presents it for his friend's inspection. Calm satisfaction possesses the one, admiration and envy the other. Mr. Philip Calderon has one picture for the Academy, "Farewell," representing a young naval officer of Nelson's time bidding his sweetheart good-bye. They are standing on the steps of a pier, and the sea forms a background. Mr. G. H. Boughton has ready for the Academy two pictures, the larger, "A Winter Nightfall." A burly labourer carrying a baby over his shoulder, the wife following behind. A warm glow is shed upon the scene from a cottage hard by. The smaller, "A Brabant Skater Girl." The figure, in the costume of the seventeenth century, is advancing with an easy swing on the "outside edge." To the New Gallery, "Black-eyed Susan," and a portrait (Miss Phillips); perhaps also a small winter scene termed "An East Wind." Mr. Frith contributes a picture named "A New Model," representing an artist receiving a new model, with a letter of introduction. Mr. John Pettie forwards five pictures to the Academy. First, "The Ultimatum," a man in armour, half-length; second, "Bonnie Prince Charlie," the Prince standing between two Highland gentlemen in costume; third and fourth, two portraits—head-size—of Messrs. August Manns and Wolf Harris; and, fifth, a full-length portrait of a boy—Master Watt. Mr. Britton Riviere exhibits four paintings at Burlington House. First "The Dead Hector," illustrating the theme from the Iliad—

"but Hector Priam's son
Not to the fire but the dogs I give."

Hector's body lies prostrate on the shore, the blue sea its background. The power of Aphrodite protects it from the contamination of dogs, while Apollo veils his face with clouds, to shade the body with a funeral pall. The second, "A Master of Kings," shows Cupid mounted on a lion subdued by his power. The third, "The Haunted Temple," gives us two tigers prowling in the moonlight within a rock-hewn Indian temple. The fourth, "A Day of Mortification," is more up to date, and shows a young lady, going to church, waving back three dogs who are anxious to accompany her. Mr. Sant sends "A Moving Story," which probably will move many hearts before July is out; "The Children of Lord Robartes," and "The Youngest Daughter of — Close, Esq." Mr. Valentine Prinsep has one large canvas nearly ready for the Academy, depicting a Christian slave belonging to the household of a Roman lady brought before her on the charge of having broken the image of a household deity. Mr. Marcus Stone gives but one picture to this year's Academy, entitled "Two's Company; Three's None." The scene is laid out of doors in the sunshine. A complaisant, judicious third is about to leave a pair of young lovers. Mr. E. J. Poynter will contribute to the Academy a picture of three classical figures entitled, "When the World was Young," representing two girls playing knucklebones, and a third seated at a window. Also a half-length called "White Rose," a companion to "Peas Blossom," exhibited two years ago. Possibly a portrait and another picture called "Chloe." The latter, if not finished in time, will go to the New Gallery, as also will a small finished study for the Academy picture and a portrait. Mr. Peter Graham gives two pictures, of which the first is the familiar scene among the Highlands. In the foreground are high hills, on which the rain falls in sheets, softening their outline. On other parts the sun shines brightly. A rough mountain road occupies the foreground, along which some cattle pass. Across an intervening loch a village is visible. The second is a seascape; waves break on dark cliffs, around which seagulls hover and settle.

General Lord Roberts, V.C., the Commander-in-Chief in India, has conveyed the approval of the Indian Government to the contribution of the bronze gun metal necessary for the erection of an equestrian statue in London of the late Field-Marshal Lord Strathnairn. The statue will be erected at Knightsbridge, on a site given by the Office of Works, and the commission has been entrusted to Mr. Onslow Ford, A.R.A., subject to his model and design being approved by the committee.

On the retirement, in January last, of Dr. Rieu, the well-known Persian scholar, from the Keepership of Oriental MSS. at the British Museum, it was decided by the trustees to create a new Oriental Department to consist of Oriental printed books and MSS., in both of which collections the Museum is very rich. This has now been done, and Professor Douglas has been appointed Keeper of the new department.

The long-deferred project of erecting a monument to Mozart in the Austrian capital is at length in a fair way of being realised, the committee constituted for the purpose having approved of a new model recently submitted to them by the sculptor, Herr Tilgner. The work will be taken in hand at once, and, it is estimated, will be completed about May, 1894. The monument fund so far subscribed amounts to 82,000 florins.

Lord Tennyson's habit of continually retouching his poems, and often suppressing them entirely, should make his first editions specially valuable to the student. "The Princess," as we know it, is a very different thing to "The Princess" of 1847. "The Lover's Tale," republished in 1879, after being ignored for nearly half a century, bears scarcely any likeness to the excessively rare "Lover's Tale" of 1833, which was practically suppressed before publication.

The redecoration of the ceilings of the State apartments at Windsor Castle, which has been in progress for twelve months, is now approaching completion. Some of the ceilings renovated are those which replaced several pictures executed by Antonio Verrio in the time of Charles II., and in repainting them the colouring of Sir Jeffery Wyatville, the Palace architect in the reign of George IV., has been carefully followed by the Lord Chamberlain's staff with satisfactory results. Only three of Verrio's allegorical ceilings, those adorning the State ante-room and the audience and presence chambers, remain. They represent the "Banquet of the Gods" and "Queen Catherine of Braganza," and have likewise been successfully treated, the figures appearing as clear and the tints as fresh and beautiful as when originally painted by the Neapolitan artist. There is no record of these magnificent ceilings having been cleaned or restored since they were finished by Verrio over 200 years ago.

The original draft of Thackeray's *Adventures of Philip* has been sold for £88. At the same sale Charles Lamb's lines "On an infant dying as soon as born" brought £17 10s., and one sheet of the manuscript of Thackeray's *Virginians* fetched £3 8s.

The long-expected "revised edition" of the Bible has at last been published by Canstein's Bible Press,

in Halle. It was deemed essential by the Supreme Protestant Church Council in Berlin to refrain from any but absolutely necessary changes, and to make every alteration so that the words chosen should be in harmony with the diction of Luther's Bible. The New Testament was revised first. The results of their labours were embodied in a proof edition in 1867. In 1870 this revised edition was ready for delivery to the Bible Societies and Church communities; and has since gone through fifty-nine editions, making a total of 118,000 copies. The Old Testament was then taken in hand. The Committee sat eighteen times, eleven days each time; and the results of its labours were embodied in the so-called Proof Bible in 1883. After two years had been allowed for criticism, the final revision of the Proof Bible began, in the course of which the numerous reports and opinions sent in at the instance of the Prussian Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs were considered. At last, in January, 1890, the great final conference of all who had taken part in the theological and linguistic work of revision was held at Halle.

Correspondence.

QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY.

Sir,—For some years past there has been much lamentation about the distress prevailing among the clergy, and I beg of you space to show how one of the Church's institutions, Queen Anne's Bounty Board, helps the suffering ones. When Queen Anne granted the revenues of tenths and first fruits for the augmentation of poor benefices, she specially exempted such as did not exceed £50 a year from the payment of these imposts.

In 1862, the Bounty Board stated that there were more than 500 livings under £200 in value, some of these being less than £100 in value, liable to these payments. How many are there in 1892 that can be included among the latter? I can count ten within a radius of five miles whose incomes have dwindled, in a few years, from £300, £400, or £500 to very much below £100, and still are subject to the payment of tenths, which go towards the augmentation of benefices much better endowed than their own.

I can vouch for the accuracy of the following statement. The living of X., though largely endowed with acres, has not averaged fifty pounds a year for the incumbent during the last six years. For the last four years the glebe has been in the hands of a receiver appointed by the Court of Chancery to recover arrears of a rent-charge for drainage effected by a predecessor, whilst thirty acres have been sold to accomplish this object. Until some three months ago the incumbent has received no demand for tenths due during the receivership; but now that is at an end, a peremptory demand is made for the arrears from the incumbent, who is informed that unless a remittance is sent by return post the matter will be put in the hands of the Sheriff! I know the incumbent has not the money, nor has he had any chance of providing for it. A distraint may follow, in default of which the Exchequer writ gives the Sheriff authority to lodge the poor parson bodily in the county gaol, without trial or any other process! Would such proceedings be tolerated by any class of men, except the clergy, at the end of the nineteenth century?

And where do these tenths go? An instance from the Bounty Board's Report to Parliament in 1887 will show. The vicar of C. V., in a rich county, with an income now of over two hundred pounds and house, raised three hundred pounds by subscriptions. Three hundred pounds more was given by the Diocesan Society, and this was met by a grant of six hundred pounds from the Bounty Board. Yet a poor incumbent in the Midlands, where agriculture has nearly gone to the dogs, with an income of less than fifty pounds, has to pay some two pounds ten shillings a year to help one more than twice as well off in a more flourishing county. I do not say that the vicar of C. V. has too much, but the incumbent of X. has a great deal too little, and the payment of tenths means so much less bread and cheese for him and his.

When the hardship in many cases of paying tenths was mentioned to the Bishop of this diocese, his reply was that the Board is obliged to carry out the law. Yes, indeed! But why do not the Bishops move to get the law altered?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 29. Q.

SMALL HOLDINGS.

Sir,—Suppose the authorities for disposing of land for small holdings decide upon taking 100 acres from a 500 acre farm, and the portion selected is that abutting on a hard road, the cost of such land (depreciating the farm) could not be secured under £20 an acre. Let us suppose that the 100 acres so bought is to be turned into five holdings of 20 acres each. The cost of 100 acres at £20 an acre, £2,000; the re-fencing, say, £60; new buiidings, each house, £200; each premises, £200; each water supply, £25—£425; multiply by five, £2,125. Capital required for stocking, £10 an acre, 100 acres, £1,000, making a total of £5,305; or £1,061 for twenty acres, equal to £53 10s. an acre. On a considerable portion of this amount interest and sinking fund have to be provided without fail, and the owner will have to pay tithe rates and taxes, in my county equal to 11s. 3d. an acre. If yeomen could not hold their own when wheat was 50s. or 60s. a quarter and wool 1s. a pound, how are these borrowers of money to pay their way?

Yours, &c.,

LANDLORD.

SOCIETY.

A marriage has been arranged between Mr. J. D. Crosbie, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, son of Colonel Crosbie, of Ballyheigue Castle, co. Kerry, and Lady Mabel Brudenell-Bruce, only sister of the Marquis of Ailesbury.

Also between Mr. H. R. Parker, eldest son of the late Henry Parker, of Lower Condercum, Northumberland, and of Mrs. Parker, of The Park, Royston, and Miss C. E. Gordon Besley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Besley, of 46, Queen's-gardens, and granddaughter of the late Lord and Lady Cecil Gordon, of the Palace, Hampton Court.

Also between Mr. Charles R. Bernard, of Ryelands, Taynton, Gloucester, and Clara, only daughter of Captain A. M. Archdale, R.A., of The Holts, Newent, Gloucester.

Also between the Rev. F. J. Dyson, of Denne Hill, near Canterbury, and Miss Mabel Lovett, daughter of the Rev. Robert Lovett, of The Rectory, Bishop's Caundle, near Sherborne, Dorset.

Also between Mr. Richard Edmond Hodson, Coolfadda House, Bandon, co. Cork, second surviving son of the late Sir George Hodson, Bart., of Hollybrooke, co. Wicklow, and Margaret, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Stanley Pemberton and Mrs. Pemberton, Rougham House, Bury St. Edmunds.

Also between Captain St. John Corbet Gore, of the 5th Dragoon Guards, son of the late Ralph T. Gore, R.N., and Isabel, daughter of the late P. G. Van der Byl, of High Beeches, Farnborough, Hants.

Also between the Marquis R. Paulucci de Calboli, Attaché, to the Royal Italian Embassy in London, and Donna Virginia dei Conti Lazari, niece of his Excellency Count Tornielli, Italian Ambassador to the Court of St. James.

The marriage arranged between Mr. Maconochie-Welwood and Miss Winifred Drummond will take place at all Saints' Church, Ennismore-gardens, on April 28, at half-past two o'clock.

The marriage arranged between Mr. Clayton Glyn and Miss Sutherland will take place on the 27th of April at St. George's, Hanover-square, at a quarter to three o'clock.

The marriage arranged between Mr. W. H. Montagu Leeds and Miss Fyfe-Jamieson is expected to take place at the end of April.

At St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Saturday, Frank, elder son of Mr. Arthur Holme-Sumner, late of Hatchlands, East Clandon, Surrey, was married to Rachel, third daughter of Mr. John Hunt Longstreth, of Philadelphia, United States of America. Archdeacon Farrar, rector of the parish, officiated.

The marriage of Mr. J. Beanland, M.R.C.V.S., of East Grinstead, Sussex, with Miss Kate Everara, fourth daughter of Ambrose Everard, Esq., of The Rudge, Weston, near Ross, Hereford, was solemnised recently at the purish church of Weston-under-Penyard. The officiating clergy were the Rev. Joseph Beanland (brother of the bridegroom), late English chaplain at Turin, assisted by the Rev. Prebendary Hawkshaw, rector of the parish. The bride was attired in a dress of grey Bengaline silk, trimmed with silver passementerie; veil and orange blossoms; and her ornaments consisted of a diamond star and bracelets (the gift of the bridegroom). There were two bridesmaids (sisters of the bride), whose dresses were of heliotrope de laine, trimmed with silk, and hats to match; each wore a pearl brooch and carried a handsome bouquet of orchids and roses (the gifts of the bridegroom). Mr. Frank Barling, of Monmouth, attended the bridegroom as best man, and the bride was given away by her father. The service was fully choral. After the ceremony a reception was held at The Rudge, Weston, and was well attended. Subsequently the newly-wedded couple left for London, *en route* for Hastings, to spend the honeymoon. The bride's travelling-dress consisted of brown cashmere, handsomely braided.

The annual New Club ball, one of the principal events of the Edinburgh season, took place on the 15th ult., and was attended by between 500 and 600 ladies and gentlemen. The Music Hall was required for dancing as well as the Assembly Rooms, and was elaborately decorated after a scheme in which the prevailing tones were pale yellows and greens. The wings were screened off to form supper-rooms, and the space beneath the gallery was furnished as a drawing-room. Herr Dambmann's band supplied the music in the Assembly Rooms and Herr Iff's in the Music Hall. Amongst those present were Lady Leith Buchanan, Lady Gertrude Montgomerie, Lady Paton, Lady Grant, the Hon. Mrs. Balfour, the Hon. Mrs. Dundas, the Hon. Lilian Elphinstone, Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ballimore, Mrs. Elliot of Wolfelee, Mrs. Gordon Nethermuir, Mrs. Macduff of Bonhard, Mrs. Wilkie of Ormistone, the Misses Stewart-Robertson of Edradynate, Miss Don Wauchope of Edmonstone, Sir A. Napier, Bart., Sir George Leith Buchanan, Lord Kyllachy, Lord Stormonth Darling, the Hon. Edward Elphinstone, the Master of Elibank, Messrs. Sterling Cookson of Renton, J. Ramage Dawson, jun., of Balado, Dickson of Corstorphine, Dundas of Arniston, Elliot of Wolfelee, Mitchell-Gill of Savock, Graham-Stirling of Strowan, Wilkie of Ormiston, Colonels Riddell Carre, Hill, Hobart, McGeorge, Tait, Lieutenant-Colonels Barstow, Burnley Campbell of Ballimore, Greenhill Gardyne, &c.

The conversazione given by the Trinity College, London, on Tuesday week proved a brilliant success. The college is situated in Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, but the entertainment was given at the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, and the large company had the pleasure of enjoying this charming collection of works of art as well as a most interesting programme. The vice-president, the warden, and council received their guests from half past eight till nine o'clock, and then the music began in the East Gallery with a pianoforte solo valse (Rubinstein), played by Miss Eleanor Shuttleworth, Benedict Exhibitioner of the college. This was followed by a song, "O Sun that Wakenest," given by the Sims Reeves Exhibitioner, Miss Maggie Pritchard, who was accompanied by the composer, Mr. F. Corder, and a pianoforte solo, Chopin's Scherzo in B flat minor, by Mr. Albert Ketelbey, Queen Victoria Scholar of the college. After Miss May Pinney had sang "All Soul's Day" and Madrigal, accompanied by Mr. Albert Visetti, Mr. Henry Bird gave a most interesting performance of works by Gibbons, Scarlatti, Bach, and Couperin, on the harpsichord, lent by Messrs. Broadwood; the spinnet, lent by Mr. W. Vinnicombe; and the clarichord, by Mr. J. H. Bowman. These antique instruments had attracted much attention, and the sounds emitted, though resonant, were subdued, and required patient listening. Mr. Carrodus played some much-applauded violin solos, and Mr. John Radcliff a flute solo. In the Central Gallery, Mr. John L. Child executed a thrilling story, "Sheltered," with much pathos, and here also was an exhibition of the Edison phonograph, which proved a constant object of curiosity. In addition to all this, some old and interesting musical programmes and some musical instruments were open to inspection.

The marriage of Mr. Albert E. Flux, of Manchester, third son of Major Flux, of Ryde, Isle of Wight, with Miss Blanche Taylor, second daughter of Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Sandyford, was solemnised recently at the parish Church, Matlock. The officiating clergy were the Rev. J. W. Kewley, assisted by the Rev. E. J. Bagshaw. The bride was given away by her uncle (Mr. Walter Taylor, of Hopton), and was attended by Miss Katie E. Flux (sister of the bridegroom) as the only bridesmaid. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Alfred Clarke as best man. After the ceremony a reception was held at Hopton House, the residence of the bride's aunt, and was well attended.

The marriage of Mr. Arthur Waldie Temple of Bridport, eldest son of the Rev. John Temple,

vicar of Bothenhampton, with Miss Rosie Fruing Stephens, second daughter of the late Mr. Alfred Stephens, of Bridport, and stepdaughter of Mr. George A. D. C. Fergusson, of the Neuk, Peebles, was solemnised recently at St. Peter's Church, Peebles, near Bridport, Dorsetshire. The service was fully choral. The bride, who was given away by her mother, entered the church leaning on the arm of her stepfather, and was attended by two bridesmaids. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. J. A. Stephens (cousin of the bride) as best man. The Rev. J. Ll. C. Evans, incumbent of St. Peter's Church, officiated.

The marriage of Mr. Robert A. Yeates, of the Indian Medical Service, younger son of the Rev. G. Yeates, rector of Lissan, Ireland, and Miss S. Marcia Scott, eldest daughter of the Rev. T. J. Scott, rector of Chilton Foliatt, was solemnised recently in the parish church of Chilton Foliatt, near Hungerford. Being Lent, the wedding was a very quiet one, and the bride was married in her travelling dress of dark blue foulard silk, sprigged with small white leaves, and trimmed with dark blue velvet and white lace, her large fawn-coloured straw hat being ornamented with pink roses and white lace. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, and Mr. Edward Lionel Scott gave his niece away.

The Lord Provost of Glasgow and Mrs. Muir gave their third official ball in the Municipal-buildings, on the 11th ult. The invitations were very numerous. The Banqueting-hall and the Council Chamber were set apart for the dancers, Herr Iff providing bands for both. Light refreshments were served in the upper galleries, while supper, which took place at eleven, was served in a suite of eight committee-rooms. The Lord Provost and Mrs. Muir received their guests in the Satinwood-room. Mrs. Muir wore a handsome gown of black brocade, with a floral design of irises in soft shades of old-rose and heliotrope. It had a very long train, and was trimmed with plumes of green and heliotrope ostrich tips; the bouquet being principally composed of carnations and roses tied with long heliotrope ribbons. She was accompanied by her two married daughters, Mrs. Alexander McGrigor, and Mrs. W. A. Coats, and their husbands, and by her younger daughters, of whom Miss Hetherington Muir is a *débutante*. Most of the dresses were exceedingly rich, one of the handsomest gowns being that of old-rose Lyons velvet, worn by Mrs. Graham, with rich hand-wrought embroidery trimming the skirt. Mrs. Angus Campbell was in purple and heliotrope, and Mrs. and Miss Ure of Cairndhu wore companion gowns of delicate grey satin. Lady Campbell of Garscube wore a black dress of striped silk and satin, heavily trimmed with gold passementerie. Mrs. McLennan, Mrs. Shearer, and Mrs. Alexander were all dressed in black. Mrs. Reid's was an exceedingly effective gown of sapphire-blue velvet cut in panels, each of which were edged with fur. A good many of such fur-trimmed costumes were to be seen, a peculiar one being that worn by Mrs. Murray, which was of dark green velvet opening over light blue satin, and edged with narrow bands of beaver. A lovely frock was worn by Miss Bain, the skirt being of white, brocaded with gold beads, and draped with chiffon, the bodice and long train, cut *en princesse*, being of gold-coloured satin, draped with chiffon and outlined with gold, the train being caught at the sides by plumes of ostrich feathers, and the front of the bodice being trimmed with a deep fringe of gold. Mrs. Ramsay, of the University, wore a skirt of pale blue, with bands of jet running downwards from the waist; the train and bodice were in one, and were draped with pale blue chiffon to match. One of the loveliest women in the room was Mrs. Liebmann. She wore a gown of dead-white satin embroidered in roses. Miss Donald wore a plainly-cut gown of heliotrope, trimmed with pale blue, which looked better than it reads. Miss Maxwell wore pale yellow silk, with a long train coming in pleats from either shoulder and hanging very gracefully, and with brown chiffon trimming the bodice. Mrs. Donald M'Leod wore black broché draped with black net. Many of the bouquets were very beautiful. An exquisite one was of Neapolitan violets and lilies of the valley, and another of lilac and eucharis lilies. Mrs. M'Adam Smith had a lovely posy of delicate orchids tied with heliotrope ribbon, and others were of Maréçhal Niel roses, Souvenir de Malmaison roses, and white lilies.

At the Marchioness of Salisbury's second reception the Countess of Wharncliffe wore a white brocade, bordered with fur; Lady Knutsford, a black dress, with handsome diamonds; the Marchioness of Downshire, black, veiled with thickly jetted lace; Lady Paget white; Hon. Marian Brodrick, pink mauve Bengaline; Lady Borthwick, black; Miss Walpole, white satin, edged round the bottom of the skirt, the waist, basque, &c., with a narrow border of blue and white violets, a large cluster of the same being fastened in front of the bodice; Hon. Mrs. Gathorne-Hardy, grey satin; Hon. Evelyn Gathorne-Hardy, pink satin; Countess Temple, black satin; and the Hon. A. Murray, pale blue crêpe de Chine, with a blue velvet bow in the hair.

At Mdme. Waddington's reception on the 19th ult. most of the ladies, including the hostess, the Marchioness of Salisbury, and all the members of the Corps Diplomatique, wore black; indeed, the sombre tint predominated, relieved simply by pearl and diamond ornaments. There were, however, some coloured gowns to be seen. Lady Wimborne's daughters, the Hon. Misses Guest, wore very pretty dresses of pale green and pink brocade, made quite simply, with demi-trains, and with long bows and ends of pale green ribbon falling from the shoulders to the bottom of the skirt. Lady Mary Sackville wore white striped silk, the bodice trimmed with white feather trimming; her mother, the Countess de la Warr, was in black. Lady Dallas, black satin gown, made with a Watteau train, was trimmed round the neck and sleeves of the bodice with deep frills of white lace. Mrs. Hanbury looked very pretty in a light costume, trimmed with long bows of green ribbon. Miss Thornton wore blue silk, trimmed with blue gauze. The suite of reception rooms on the first floor were thronged until a late hour by the numerous guests, supper was served at a long table in the large drawing-room, and the staircase and rooms were decorated with beautiful palms and flowers.

The Water-Colour Society of Ireland gave a most agreeable Conversazione at the Exhibition Room, Molesworth-street, Dublin, on the 16th ult., at which an extremely large number of guests were present. During the evening there were some charming songs given, notably the duets between Mrs. Burrows and Mrs. Rawlinson, which elicited hearty applause. Mr. William Armstrong, whose name appeared in the programme, was unfortunately absent, which was a great disappointment to those who know his charming tenor voice. A humorous song, "The Rale Ould Irish Gintleman," was well given by a gentleman who was one of the guests present. The toilettes were remarkable as being chiefly *en sacque*. Mrs Burrows wore a handsome black and white brocaded gown, with black train, and much jet on the bodice and sleeves. Miss Rose Barton wore a pale blue Princess gown, the sides bordered with a design worked in silver, opening over a front of white lace. Mrs. Chenevix-Trench wore a grey Watteau gown trimmed with rows of black velvet; a bow on the shoulders with long ends. Miss Fanny Currey was in black. Miss Henrietta Lynch wore an apricot silk gown, with sleeves and fichu of white lace. Mrs. Barton was in black velvet, with diamond ornaments. Miss Richards wore pink chiffon, with velvet Swiss bodice and ribbons. Mrs. Sankey wore white lace, with a train of white brocade; large bow on the shoulders, with long falling ends of rainbow ribbon. Miss Armytage Moore had a simple black gown, slightly trimmed with jet. Mrs. Martin wore bronze satin, with black lace. Mrs. Stratford Tuke wore deep red silk, the long sleeves slashed with white silk.

Lady Gordon Cathcart gave an entertainment to the members of the Stains branch of the Scotch Girls' Friendly Society on Tuesday week, n the parish church room at Stains, Aberdeenshire. An annual festival has now been established, and as many of the members and associates attend it as are able. Lady Gordon Cathcart is president, and takes much interest in it.

The Comtesse de Castelvecchio gave a dramatic and musical recital, which was very largely attended, at St. James's Banqueting Hall, on the afternoon of the 16th ult. Recitations of the most varied scope were included in the programme, and the Comtesse exhibited her powers of declamation, not only in her native Italian, but in English, French, and German. The Comtesse de Castelvecchio has a fine stage presence, appropriate and graceful gestures, and a sweet voice. These gifts were displayed to peculiar advantage in the costume piece entitled "Perdita," when the Comtesse appeared as a statue clad in Greek draperies, her figure being thrown into bold relief by means of electric light. An accompaniment of soft music was played by the composer, Miss K. Velthusen. Mrs. de Lauen Shee as the violinist and Miss Florence Shee as the vocalist added some pleasant items to the programme; whilst Miss Rachel Phelps and Signor Carlo Ducci contributed harp and pianoforte solos respectively.

The Glasgow Society of Lady Artists opened their new premises to the public on the 19th ult., at Charing-cross-mansions, Glasgow. A private view was enjoyed by many local celebrities and other guests the day before. Amongst those who responded to the invitation of the committee were Lord and Lady Kelvin, Professor Thomson and Mrs. Thomson, and many others. The work exhibited is excellent, and reflects the greatest credit on the promoters and members of the society. There are three rooms, one being devoted to oil paintings, a second to water-colours, and a third to decorative work. Several London artists are contributors, and there are representatives of various other parts of England and Scotland. Naturally, in an exhibition formed exclusively of women's work, one looks for perfection of detail primarily amongst the floral pieces, and it would be difficult to find better or more pleasing samples than the Gladiola of Miss J. Nisbet, or the White Rhododendrons of Mrs. H. J. Roberton. Miss J. Finlay is very ambitious, but not a little successful in the "Interior of the Corporation Buildings." Miss Louisa Aumonier sends several studies, Miss Linnie Watt has some "Embroidery" and a pretty interior (Streatham). Miss H. Sutcliffe, another London artist, sends a characteristic morceau in "Tired Out." Judging by the catalogue, many of the associates have been most energetic, for they are responsible for three or four pictures each. The studios are very tastefully decorated, and altogether the exhibition is well worthy of a visit.

The Edinburgh Cap and Gown Club gave a very successful At home on the evening of Wednesday, March 16, in the Freemason's Hall. There was a large and fashionable attendance. The hall was charmingly decorated for the occasion. Bright carpets and rugs covered the floor, comfortable chairs and lounges were provided, palms and flowers were tastefully disposed about the hall, the tall lamps shed a soft light upon the scene. The entertainment was opened by the acting of a farcical comedietta, entitled *Poor Pussy*, specially written for the club by Mr. Russell Allen, the author of several recent Theatre Royal pantomimes. The little piece proved a great success, the incident on which it turns—the loss by a young widow of a favourite cat and all that came of it—being cleverly worked out, and the secret well kept until the end of the piece. It was excellently played by Miss H. B. Smith, who impersonated the young widow with much impressiveness; by Miss Rupert, who looked well and acted smartly as her maid; and by Dr. Reginald Horsley, who, as the wooer of the widow and the supposed slayer of the cat, infused much humour into the representation. The trio were loudly applauded, and the author had also to appear in response to repeated calls. After an interval for refreshments, the club glee party, under the leadership of Mr. P. Delle Torre, sang several glees and part-songs in a tasteful manner; and a choir of ladies, under the direction of Mdme. de Greiner, rendered crisply and well the Spinning Song from the "Flying Dutchman," while excellent instrumental music was contributed by Messrs. Dambmann, Scott-Jupp, Guyer, and Lambach; and vocal duets by Messrs Jones and Taylor and Messrs Moncrieff and Little. The arrangements for the evening were under the care of Mr. R. H. Christie, S.S.C., and were in all respects satisfactory. Among the guests were the Lord Justice-General and Mrs. Robertson, the Lord Justice-Clerk, Lord Adam and Mrs. Adam, Lord Kincairney and Mrs. Gloag, Lord Trayner and Mrs. Trayner, Lord Low and Mrs. Low, Lord Wellwood, Lord McLaren, Mrs. and Miss McLaren, and Sir William and Lady Turner.

The first of the four public suppings given during Lent to the boys of Christ's Hospital took place on the 17th ult. in the great hall of the institution, the Duke of Cambridge (President) occupying the chair. Amongst those also present were: Sir Joseph Savory and Lady Savory, Mr. Alderman Faudel Phillips, Mr. W. Vaughan Morgan (Treasurer), Colonel Gardiner, Mr. ex-Sheriff Hutton, the Rev. R. Lee, M.A. (Head Master), Mr. Marsden, and Mr. J. D. Parker. The quaint service used on these occasions was performed by the boys, after which they marched before the President.

Mrs. Oswald gave one of her pleasant At homes on the 16th ult., at her flat, 59, Egerton-gardens, when a number of people were present. The Misses Delves Yates were in excellent voice, and sang several songs charmingly; Miss Marie Roberts' singing gave much pleasure; Miss Agabeg and Miss Malecka gave pianoforte solos

with great effect; Mr. Orton Bradley also played in his usual masterly style, and accompanied some of the songs. Mrs. Oswald was dressed in black and yellow; Miss Oswald looked charming in a dress of old-rose. There were several other very pretty dresses.

CHIT CHAT.

The Prince of Wales and family are thoroughly pleased with Cap Martin, and have decided to remain there three weeks longer. Prince George's health is much improved, and Princess Maud is better, so that the services of the nurse, Sister Edith, are no longer needed. Their Royal Highnesses spend most of their time in the open air, walking amongst the pines on the Cap, or driving in the direction of Beaulieu. Several delightful trips have also been made by sea as far as Bordighera, San Remo, and Nice, in Mr. Pryce Hamilton's steam yacht *Saurian*, which has been placed at their disposal. A special landing stage was made some time ago for the new hotel at the Cap, so that there is no need to go to Mentone port to embark or disembark. The Duke and Duchess of Fife did not stay at Hyères on their way to Cap Martin, but proceeded direct from London to the same hotel as that occupied by the Prince and Princess of Wales and family. They will return to England at the end of April. There is no foundation for the announcement that the Duke and Duchess are going to Copenhagen for the celebration of the King and Queen's golden wedding in May, as her Royal Highness is in deep mourning.

The arrangements for the German Emperor's whale-hunting excursion in Norway have been made by the well-known Norwegian whaleman, Herr Giaever. As the Hohenzollern is too large to be used on such a trip, the Emperor will avail himself, on leaving that vessel, of one of Herr Giaever's fishing-boats, otherwise a steamer fitted with all modern implements for whale-hunting. Whale-hunting, it may be added, is a very exciting sport, but, as indulged in under existing conditions, it is attended with hardly any danger. A harpoon is shot from a gun on board the steamer into the whale, and, when the line which is attached to it is tightened, a shell fixed to the harpoon explodes, and the animal is killed. A more hazardous method is to approach the animal in small boats and attack it with hand harpoons and lances.

Dr. Nansen's North Pole expedition will, according to Norwegian newspapers, start on January 1, 1893. Dr. Nansen has selected as members of the expedition a young officer in the Royal Norwegian Navy, Herr Sigurd Scott-Hansen, who will make the astonomical observations, an old and experienced Arctic navigator, Captain J. Ingebrigtsen, from Tromsö, and his fellow-traveller over the Greenland ice, Herr Sverdrup.

In a few weeks Mr. A. E. Pratt will leave England on a two years' visit to South America for the purpose of exploring some unknown districts of the interior and of collecting natural history specimens. Mr. Pratt is already well and favourably known for his work in China, and especially for two journeys made by him to the western borders of Thibet. He proposes to make his way up the Amazon, some of the tributaries of which he will explore, and before returning home will probably visit Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru, or one or other of these States. Mr. Pratt has received a small subsidy from the Royal Geographical Society, and will take with him instruments for making geographical observations. The interior of the South American continent is probably the least known portion of the accessible part of the globe now that Central Africa is crossed by so many lines of light, and there is abundant scope for the energies of a small army of explorers. Mr. Pratt hopes to be back in England before the meeting of the International Geographical Congress in London in 1895.

A mechanical engineer, living in New York, has just completed a remarkable set of chessmen, the construction of which has occupied him for six years. The material is silvered bronze, and the period of costume and equipment is A.D. 1194, all the characters being historical and contemporary. The knights are in chain-mail armour, with shield, axe, sword, and dagger. The queens wear royal robes and carry sceptres. The bishops are in church vestments. The pawns are men-at-arms in a kneeling posture, with spear, bill-hook, and knife. The white men are English, the black French. The English king and queen are Richard I. and his Berengaria. The bishops are Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury, and William Longchamps, Bishop of Ely; and the knights are the Earl of Salisbury and Baron of Worcester. The castle is Anglo-Norman, and is a perfectly accurate representation of feudal architecture. The French king and queen are Philip and Ingeborg, his Danish spouse, the bishops being De Dreux and De Sully of Beauvais and Paris. The knights are also well-known men of the twelfth century, and the castle is Franco-Norman. The details of costume and heraldic blasonry are accurate in every particular.

A giant sunshade, which is intended as a present for the Sultan of Morocco, has just been completed at Berlin. The stick, which is over three and a-quarter yards long, is gilded and richly ornamented. The outside of the parasol is of bright green silk, with a heavy gold fringe round it, while the inside is lined with pale straw colour.

The most eminent surgeons in Germany have been consulted about the Emperor's ear malady, but they seem to agree that nothing can be done, for the chances are that an operation (which his Majesty would readily undergo) would either prove fatal or would at once injure the brain.

Anne Hathaway's cottage is publicly advertised for sale to the highest bidder. The trustees of Shakespeare's Birthplace have endeavoured to purchase the cottage so as to preserve it to the public for ever, but the negotiations so far have come to nothing.

The Prince of Monaco has upwards of 1,670 large bottles, encased in a thin copper covering, thrown into the sea at different parts of the ocean between Europe and America, and of these 226 have been returned to him by the Governments of the various countries to the shores of which they had drifted, and their progress has been noted with sufficient accuracy to lead to the conviction that the movement of the upper part of the water is circular, the centre being to the west of the Azores. The tide of the Atlantic thus descends the coast of Africa, and, running in a westerly direction, flows on towards Bermuda, and then turns eastward. The speed at which the bottles travelled is estimated at an average of four miles in twenty-four hours, though at some points they attained a rate of six miles. It was in the western half of the circle thus described that the rapidity was greatest. One bottle had drifted about for upwards of five years.

The census of 1891 shows that the area of the Indian Empire is a little over 1,500,000 square miles, but this does not include certain tracts whose area has yet to be determined. This area contained 52,903,700 inhabited houses, being in the proportion of thirty-four to each square mile.

The Rev. Charles Gore has consented to hold a three days' Retreat for clergy at Keble College, Oxford, at the end of June.

Amongst the most notable defects of the design of the last coinage was the position of the crown on the Queen's head, which had an uncomfortable appearance of slipping off. In the accepted designs for the new coinage the crown has finally disappeared. Her Majesty reappears, as in the earlier coinage of the reign, with simple headdress.

It is reported that a very few years will see a notably change in Piccadilly, and the removal of another of the old landmarks of London. The Duke of Devonshire has decided to sell his town house, and the site will, it is hoped, be turned to profitable account by the architects. The price to be given for the house and land adjoining is said to be £750,000, which represents an enormous addition to the value of land since 1854, when Burlington House and its gardens, about three-and-a-half acres, were bought by the late Duke of Devonshire for £140,000. The actual cost of Devonshire House, which was built about the middle of the last century, was £20,000, including the sum of £1,000 paid to William Kent, the architect. To produce anything like an adequate return for the amount now to be paid will necessitate the erection of lofty buildings, which will not only cover the gardens that have hitherto been one of the lungs of Central London, but will shut out more of the little sky we now enjoy.

A discovery of considerable archæological interest has just been made on Godney Moor, between Glastonbury and Godney, by Mr. Arthur Bulleid. Mr. Bulleid was driving along the other day in Godney, and at a spot locally known as "Blow Hard Corner," or Applin's-corner, noticed a large number of irregular mounds. He went there, and found a number of small irregular heaps, bits of pottery, flint and bones. His curiosity being excited, and anticipating a "find," he went to Mr. E. Bath, of Glastonbury, the owner of the field, and also to Mr. James Reeves, the tenant, and obtained their permission to pursue his search under ground. On Monday he got a number of men and commenced to excavate. Trenches were cut through the centre of the mounds, and it then became clear that the site of an early British village had been found. Under the mounds were found clay beds formed on the peat, and resting on trunks of trees; under the clay were discovered layers of charcoal and bones, and fragments of early English pottery. Near the surface of two of the mounds hearths of stone were found, and in one mound two hearth-stones were discovered, one about 6in. above the other. There are close upon sixty of these mounds, and all in a field of about eight acres in extent. It was evident that the clay bed was renewed from time to time as it sank in the soft yielding peat. The rude fire-place or hearth-stone was placed in the centre of each mound or hut. Sufficient pottery was found to almost stock the local museum. A nearly perfect pan was found, two spindle whirls, bones of animals (which probably were wild), and other traces of an early British encampment. At irregular intervals, logs of wood were found with holes rudely bored through them, and it is conjectured that these logs of wood were used as pillars for the support of the huts. The discovery has attracted considerable attention, and Professor Boyd Dawkins and General Pitt Rivers have been informed of the circumstance, and invited to see the place.

"What to do with the City churches?" is an ancient problem. At the induction of the rector of St. Michael Bassishaw (a parish with 200 inhabitants) the Archdeacon of London gave a new and rather startling answer. Premising that there are only nine more of the sixty City churches left which the sentiment of the community would permit to be destroyed, he declared that the redundant remainder should be allotted to special classes of City workers. Thus, St. Michael Bassishaw has been handed over to the Church of England's Young Men's Society; others should be given (one each) to clerks, to the City police, to the staff of the General Post Office, to factory girls, and to children.

The testimonial which is to be presented by Conservatives to Mr. Balfour, in recognition of his services as Chief Secretary for Ireland, will take the form of a gold-and-silver shield, having the right hon. gentleman's portrait in a central medallion, surroundered by appropriate sculptures in relief.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—Messrs. Mayer and Co., of Munich, and 149, New Bond-street, London, solicit a visit to their showrooms, where they have always on view stained-glass windows and other objects of ecclesiastical art, executed for almost any part of the kingdom. Messrs. Mayer and Co., will have great pleasure in submitting designs and estimates for any window in contemplation free of all charge.

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